

THE JOURNAL

Friday, September 30, 2005

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Sports Gauchos face De Anza after first loss of the season [C1]

Arts & Leisure Cal Performances still innovative as it nears century mark [C10]

City considers height, density zoning changes

■ El Cerrito's action is in anticipation of growth along San Pablo Avenue

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The city is studying changes to its building regulations so it can accommodate the commercial and residential growth it expects to see along San Pablo Avenue over the next 19 years.

Now undergoing review by the city's planning commission, the 2005 zoning ordinance revision proposes changes to height limits and possibly increased density around the "mid-town" area of San Pablo Avenue, and the two BART stations.

The new zoning code is intended to implement the city's 1999 general plan. The code may undergo other revisions, including new home building height restrictions, the amount of distance buildings must stand from creeks, and a new section governing telecommunication devices.

"It's not just making sure growth is accommodated," El Cerrito Planning Manager Jennifer Carman said. "It's responding to citizen requests over the years."

The 1999 general plan assumes that 189,350 square feet of additional retail space, 166,570 square feet of additional office space, and 775 new housing units

MORE INFO

The administrative draft of the 2005 zoning ordinance revision is available online at el-cerrito.org. The planning commission will hold its next meeting on the ordinance Wednesday at the Council Chamber, 7007 Moers Lane, said planning commission chair Doug Mansel. It will discuss the city's telecommunication ordinance on Wednesday, Oct. 19. For more information, call 510-215-4330.

will be built in El Cerrito until 2019. Of the housing units, only 90 would be built outside of San Pablo Avenue.

The general plan has designated three areas along San Pablo Avenue where most of the growth will occur: around the Del Norte and El Cerrito Plaza BART stations and "mid-town," which runs from just north of Manila Avenue to just south of Moers Lane.

Those areas are known as "transit-oriented mixed-use" zones. The zoning revisions propose to increase height limits in those areas from 35 feet to 50 feet, but the planning commission could allow buildings up to 65 feet at its discretion.

Currently, the commission can allow buildings as high as it wants, Carman said.

See ZONING, Page A8



JOHANNA JHANDA/STAFF

JAY IFSHIN, owner of Ifshin Violins in Berkeley, plans to move his business to a larger space on El Cerrito's Fairmount Avenue. Ifshin Violins has been in Berkeley since 1981 and at its current location on University Avenue since 1983. He says it is difficult to do business in Berkeley because of high taxes, red tape and a lack of parking.

El Cerrito music scene attractive to businesses

Ifshin Violins is the latest to plan a move there

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

Berkeley is a tough city in which to do business, said Jay Ifshin, the owner of Ifshin Violins on University Avenue.

"There's a lot of obstacles," he said. "Taxes are higher than in a lot of other comparable cities. Berkeley is tough. From red tape to parking meters, it's one thing after another."

So Ifshin, who claims to own the largest violin store on the West Coast, is planning to move to an empty office building on Fairmount Avenue just north of El Cerrito Plaza in El Cerrito.

While it's not a done deal — Ifshin is still trying to meet city design requirements — Ifshin Violins may join a growing list of music-related retailers in the city.

"Apparently music places are saving some luck in El Cerrito," City Councilman Bill Jones said. Not only that, but El Cerrito plays a major role in East Bay rock 'n' roll lore.

Before making it big, the



OWNER JAY IFSHIN holds a 1765 violin in his store earlier this week. By moving to El Cerrito, he would join a growing list of music-related retailers that have set up shop in the city.

members of metal band Metallica lived in an El Cerrito home in the early 1980s.

The members of Creedence Clearwater Revival, including John Fogerty, attended El Cerrito High School and played their last concert there.

Jones said he believed a number of retired members of the San Francisco Symphony also live in El Cerrito.

He didn't know whether that had anything to do with the number of music stores in the city, but he speculated it might.

Store owners, on the other hand, offer another reason: El Cerrito isn't Berkeley, but it's close. Close by, that is.

"We're basically supported by the African-American community who buy roots, soul and blues," said Scott H. Glasscoe,

EL CERRITO MUSIC STORES:

■ Music Works, 11225 San Pablo Ave., 510-232-1000

■ Down Home Music Store, 10341 San Pablo Ave., 510-525-4827

■ Guitar Center, 10300 San Pablo Ave., 510-559-1055

co-owner of popular roots music store Down Home Music at 10341 San Pablo Ave., an El Cerrito institution since 1976. "Then we have the Berkeley crowd who listen to KPFA and KPIG, and we sell a lot of bluegrass and a lot of Americana music. We're not known as a rock store at all."

Down Home is packed with CDs, DVDs and a roomful of vinyl from the likes of blues and country pioneers Robert Johnson, Howlin' Wolf and Robert Johnson and Charlie Poole. It also carries doo wop, rockabilly, country, world, Cajun, gospel, Tex Mex and folk music.

See MUSIC, Page A9

Albany schools hope to attract teachers with affordable rentals

District board expected to pick a developer next month in project to build housing, commercial complexes on three sites

By Shirley Dang
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — When Willie Wong looks at the YMCA on Solano Avenue, the Albany schools superintendent pictures new apartments filled with young teachers.

Like other districts around the Bay Area, Albany is looking to transform its prime real estate into affordable employee rentals. In a city where home prices hover at \$500,000, attracting and

keeping great teachers has become more difficult, Wong said.

"Any incentive we can provide to attract qualified teachers — and one of them is housing — would be beneficial to us," Wong said.

For decades, cities and the federal government have subsidized housing. Companies erected entire towns — think Hershey, Pa. — to accommodate their workers.

Colleges such as Stanford University and UC Irvine also offer housing to their faculty, said Mary Gail Snyder, a senior research fellow at the National Housing Institute.

"What's new is school districts doing it," Snyder said.

The Albany school board is slated to pick a developer next

month. Wong said the district aims to erect commercial and residential complexes on 115,000 square feet at three sites in the next few years. One developer estimated costs at close to \$20 million, about 80 percent of the district's annual budget.

The project remains in the early stages, with financing, design and legal issues yet to be settled.

But if the project comes to fruition, the rewards could prove profitable over the long haul, Wong said. After loans are paid off, rent could provide cash for the 3,500-student district.

"Over time, 20 or 30 years from now," Wong said, "the district will receive much more in-

come from all the development projects."

The trend of districts building teacher housing began in the South Bay after the dot-com boom launched real estate prices to stratospheric levels. Santa Clara school leaders found that after gaining a few years of experience, young teachers fled to places like the Central Valley where home prices fell within reach.

"People were leaving in droves," said former Santa Clara Superintendent Paul Perotti. "Salaries of high-tech companies were much higher. We wanted to do something attractive to recruit and retain teachers."

See RENTALS, Page A10



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

Little law and order

RUBY AND NICHOLAS BUCKWALTER, both 4, stick their faces in a police cutout during Tri-City Safety Day, which brought together the fire and police departments from El Cerrito, Albany, Kensington and Berkeley on Saturday in El Cerrito.

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Martin Snapp

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Friends, family mourn 'angel' killed by gang

IT WAS JUST another crime statistic. On Sept. 11, 20-year-old Remo Reggi of Albany was shot to death in El Cerrito by an apparent gang of crackheads. It was El Cerrito's third homicide of the year.

But there was a real person behind that statistic, as the more than 600 people who crowded into his funeral at St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Berkeley could have testified. At first impression, Reggi seemed like a typical 20-year-old. He was crack about cars, especially his '88 Buick Park Avenue, girls, music and the news. But he was anything but typical. He loved three things more all else: his friends, his church and his family, especially his mother.

He kissed her every morning and every night before he went to bed, said Daniel Fesha, a close friend since the fourth grade. "If he came in after she'd gone to sleep, he'd come into her bedroom and she'd gently so he wouldn't wake her."

He had a lot of names for her. "I added Alvaro Villarreal, another longtime friend. 'He called her 'Mama,' 'Sweetheart,' 'The Lady,' or 'The Queen of My Heart.'"

Speaking at the funeral, Marvin Blair, another close friend, looked directly at Reggi's mother and said, "You were born to an angel."

That wasn't too far off the mark, according to the Rev. Jorge Alengadán, the pastor at St. Ambrose.

"Remo had a spirituality that was unusual at any age," he said. "Rain or shine, he was there for the 4:30 p.m. Saturday Visitation Mass. He always in the same pew — third from the back, on the right-hand side."

After Mass, Reggi had an evening routine: first lighting candles and praying at the altar, then going into a little chapel to meditate.

But he did more than talk and pray. Every day of his life, he walked the walk.

Jorge Sandoval, his former employer at Walker's Pie Shop in Albany, remembers the time Reggi spotted a bus pulling away without picking up a man in a wheelchair.

"He jumped out from behind the counter, ran outside, and chased the bus for a block and half before finally hailing it."

He was also scrupulously



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

But he did more than talk the talk. Every day of his life, he walked the walk.

honest and hardworking, often asking Sandoval whether there was more work to do.

A handsome, athletic 6-footer and a nice guy, too, Reggi was catnip to the girls.

"But he was so modest, he never realized it," said Sandoval's wife, Emma.

"Most of the waitresses had crushes on him, but he couldn't see it. That was part of his charm."

"He was always the last to know when a girl liked him," said Alvaro. "A girl would compliment him on his shirt, and he thought it was because she liked the shirt! I'd say, 'No man, she really likes you! She told me!' But he was so humble. He never disrespected women."

"Or anyone else," added Blair.

But Reggi's best girl was Jorge and Emma's 8-year-old daughter, Emmeli. "He was her best friend," said Emma.

"They'd play tag or hide-and-seek, chasing each other around the tables in the restaurant. He called her 'Little One,' and she called him 'Chicken Head.' She used to boss him around, and he loved it."

Emmeli has been inconsolable since Reggi's murder. She keeps asking, "Why him? He was my friend."

"It's been very hard for her," said Emma. "We told her the truth — that there are bad people out there. We explained that he's up there with God now, and I think she's OK with that."

The killers are still at large. Reggi's family is offering a \$20,000 reward for information leading to the killers' arrest and conviction. Call the El Cerrito Police Department at 510-215-4400.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2768 or e-mail msnapp@cctimes.com.

LET OF THE WEEK

BERKELEY — The following animals may be available for adoption at the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

Dogs: 10-month-old female Aussie mix blue merle; 6-month-old male shepherd mix white & brown; 10-month-old male terrier mix gray; 10-month-old male terrier mix black; 2-year-old male spaniel mix brown; 3-month-old male big-eared dane mix brown; 2-year-old female poodle mix black; 5-month-old male cattle-dog mix red merle.

Cats: 6-year-old female DSH black; 4-year-old female DLH tortoiseshell; 3-year-old male DSH black tabby; 8-year-old female tortoiseshell; 4-year-old female tortoiseshell; 1-year-old male DLH/Maine coon black tabby; 3-year-old female DSH black and white; 5-month-old male DSH gray tabby; 3-year-old female DSH black; kittens of various ages, sizes and colors.

(DLH: domestic long hair; DMH: domestic medium hair; DSH: domestic short hair).

Adoption fee: dogs \$125; cats \$100; rabbits \$40 — including spaying/neutering and age-appropriate shots. There is an overnight hold period. The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth Street, Berkeley. Its hours are 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Information: www.berkeleyhumane.org or call 510-845-7735.

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BERKELEY-EAST BAY HUMANE SOCIETY

VELVET is a 5-year-old black female domestic shorthair cat, and may be available for adoption from the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society. Velvet was surrendered to the shelter along with another cat because her owner had health problems and could no longer care for her pets. Adult cats, especially ones who are black or tabby, generally spend the most time waiting in shelters to be adopted. For more information about Velvet or other animals available for adoption, please call or visit the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.



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FACES AND PLACES

Kensington welcomes community

The Kensington Community Council's annual parade, open house and barbecue will be held Sunday at the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave.

The Friends of the Kensington Library will also hold their fall used book sale from noon to 3 p.m. at 61 Arlington Ave. in the library parking lot.

Kensington Hilltop Elementary School will hold a garage and bake sale from noon to 4 p.m. in front of building E above the tennis courts. Sales will benefit a sister school in East Baton Rouge, La.

Participants in the parade should line up at noon in the parking lot of Ace Hardware at 303 Arlington Ave. The parade begins at 12:30 p.m. and will wind its way down Arlington Ave. to the community center.

There, the El Cerrito High School marching band will perform and barbecue lunches will be served. The events will honor The Mechanics Bank, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

In addition, Marvin Gardens Real Estate will hold its annual pumpkin-carving contest. Pick up a pumpkin from Marvin Gardens at 7502 Fairmount Ave. in El Cerrito and bring the finished product to the community center for judging. Marvin Gardens will award prizes in several age categories. For more information, call 510-525-0292.

— Alan Lopez

Donations for Noche Tropical, the second annual art exhibit and silent auction benefit for Albany's SchoolCARE, are due Saturday.

Ideas for donations include theater and sports tickets; restaurant or store gift certificates; a weekend stay at a vacation home; dinner cooked for four; behind-the-scenes tours at museums; tutoring aid or other creative services. Noche Tropical will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Albany community center, 1249 Marin Ave.

Eleven Albany artists have donated original paintings, photos and collages to the October exhibit at the Albany community center, "Noche Tropical Art Exhibit 05." The artwork is available for bid by silent auction for the duration of the exhibit.

The Albany Community Center Gallery is open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday.

Among the artists in the exhibit are Guggenheim winner Bill Dane, who is represented locally by Fraenkel Gallery of San Francisco; Elisa Kleven, award-winning children's book author and illustrator, who donated an original; and local artists Susan Adame, Kanna Aoki, Teresa Barnett, Carol Newborg, Deirdre Shibano, Jo-Anna Phippen, Maureen Rettig, Iris Sabre and Amy St. George.

SchoolCARE is a non-profit organization that raises funds to support Albany school programs.

Information about the art exhibit and tickets for the silent auction are available via e-mail at a.saint@pacbell.net. Or call Amy St. George at 510-528-0848.

— Alan Lopez

Residents are invited to submit photos, drawings and paintings of Albany scenes for a postcard contest sponsored by the Albany Arts Committee. The winning images will be printed on postcards that will be sold by local merchants. All proceeds will benefit the committee's projects to support the arts in Albany.

Send one to five prints, slides



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

ROBERTA SCHLATTER, who was a teacher at Kensington Hilltop Elementary School from 1959 to 1979, talks with Bruce Anderson, who was a student in the late 1960s, about the new school during the ribbon-cutting ceremony last Saturday. Parents, kids, teachers and alumni celebrated the renovations at the school.



MARY JO MISHORK

AUBREY WILLIAMS, 10, and other students in Mary Jo Mishork's fifth-grade class at St. Jerome School in El Cerrito write letters and decorate envelopes of appreciation to send to embassies of countries that offered aid to the United States after Hurricane Katrina.

or color inkjet or laser prints with a \$10 entry fee (check payable to City of Albany) to: Images of Albany Contest, Albany Arts Committee, Recreation & Community Services, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany 94706. Entries should include contact information. Participants don't need to live in Albany, but the art must depict an Albany scene. The deadline is Dec. 1. For more information, call 510-524-9283.

— Alan Lopez

The city of El Cerrito and the El Cerrito Arts and Culture Commission will hold an arts event from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7, at the MC Art Gallery at 10344 San Pablo Ave. The event will include music, food, dance, performance and visual arts. Art and culture commissioner Pam Findago will display paper art dolls, and commissioner Ed Kinney and Mayor Sandi Potter will display their photography.

The event is part of "California Arts Day," a state-wide celebration of the arts. Museums, libraries, theaters, schools, art centers and other venues are participating. In addition, the El Cerrito City Council declared Oct. 7 "California Arts Day" in El Cerrito.

For more information about the El Cerrito event, call the MC Art Gallery at 510-528-1349. For more information about California Arts Day, go online at www.cac.ca.gov/.

El Cerrito High School will hold a concert benefiting victims of the Gulf Coast hurricane from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 8, at the school football field, 540 Ashbury Ave.

El Cerrito High School senior Sophie Mayer is organizing Gaucho Aid: A Benefit for the Victims of Hurricane Katrina, with other students, teachers and parents.

Scheduled to perform are:

Today is the last day to drop off items for a garage sale Sunday in Kensington's park to benefit victims of Hurricane Katrina. Donations should be brought to the Kensington Community Council, 59 Arlington Ave., Building E, from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The sale will be from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday on the field near the Kensington Community Center.

Proceeds of the sale will go to the Kensington Hilltop School Sister School Project and will aid a school in the disaster area.

— Tom Lochner

RabbitEARS in Kensington will host a "Blessing of the Bunnies" on Saturday from 3 to 4 p.m. Pastor Jim Stickney of St. Albans Episcopal Church in Albany will offer the blessing celebrating the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi.

The Episcopal Church has an ethical view of animals as sentient beings, and celebrates both stewardship and responsibility to them on St. Francis' feast day. Nancy Olson, a member of the worship committee at St. Albans and the House Rabbit Society, a national rabbit rescue organization, will assist Pastor Jim with the pet liturgy and prayers.

RabbitEARS is located at 303 Arlington Ave. For additional information, call 510-525-6155.

Have an item about a scholarship, an award, an interesting vacation or other experience that you'd like to share with other Journal readers? If you have a photo, print or digital, we can use those, too (sorry, we cannot return print photos). Send it to the editor, by e-mail: journal@cctimes.com, or mailing to: Neighbors, The Journal, 4301 Lakeside Dr., Richmond, CA 94806.

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— Thomas

A cartoon illustration of a man lying in a hospital bed, looking extremely shocked with his mouth wide open. A speech bubble above him says "That was no dream." The man has a very expressive face, with wide eyes and a large, open mouth. The bed has dark wooden posts on either side. The overall style is a simple, bold line drawing with some shading on the man's face and the bed.

Note: Some of these letters are reprinted from other Hills and Costa Newspapers publications.

Note: Some of these letters reprinted from other Hills and Costa Newspapers publications.

YMCA's social values are similar to libraries'

Quote of the week

"The YMCA, the oldest and largest social institution in the United States, has touched the lives of virtually all Americans. It has pioneered camping, public libraries, night schools, and teaching English as a second language. The Y has provided war relief since the Civil War and helped immigrants and refugees from countries around the world."

—Andrea Hinging, curator, 1985-2002, Kautz Family YMCA Archives

WHEN I TRAVEL, there are two places I visit: the local public library and the local YMCA. I am currently spending a few weeks in North Carolina, visiting my daughter and my first grandchild, Madeline (there, I knew I could figure out a way of bringing her into one of these columns), and so I have gone to the library and temporarily joined the local Y.

I go to the library to see what it's like, to talk to the librarians, to walk up and down the aisles so I can see how they arrange their collection, what the displays are like, and who is there. I browse the books for sale, walk around the children's section and sometimes use the Internet. I pick up all the fliers, brochures and newsletters — looking for ideas for my own library or simply out of curiosity.

Mainly, I go to the local Y to learn. However, I also love to be part of a neighborhood for a short time, because, like a library, it is full of people engaged in leading their lives. It's like a community get-together, and I get to attend.

But it wasn't until recently that I realized the similarities between these two institutions. It is true that the Y has a membership fee and the library doesn't. Nonetheless, they are both community meeting places.

They both serve families, older adults, young singles and lots of children. They both have their own particular personalities, depending on the director, the staff and the location. Rules and services vary because of budget or community needs or merely tradition.

For instance, some Ys provide free towels (Chapel Hill does), some charge a small fee for them, and some don't provide them.



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

vide any at all. This is the same for using the Internet at a library: Some provide unlimited access for a traveler, some provide limited access, and some don't let me use it at all.

Once I started thinking about this, I decided to find out more about the YMCA — and imagine my surprise when I discovered there is something called the "Kautz Family YMCA Archives." The history of the archives begins with this brief overview: "The Kautz Family YMCA Archives began life as a private collection of key material gathered to facilitate the training of new YMCA staff members, grew into a bustling corporate library, and eventually evolved into a university-based archives which serves researchers from around the world" (<http://special.lib.umn.edu/ymca/history.html>).

And by looking through these archives I discovered that volleyball was invented at the Holyoke YMCA in 1895 by William Morgan, who "felt that basketball was too strenuous for businessmen." And racquetball was invented in 1950 at the Greenwich YMCA by Joe Sobek.

The history of the Y also includes information about its influence on swimming, sports, education, child care and body building — Robert Roberts first used the term in 1881 at the Boston YMCA. And did you know that Golden Gate University had its origins at the San Francisco Y, which was founded in 1853?

As I read through the long and fascinating history of the YMCA, the comparison between libraries and Ys seemed more and more apt. Social change, community partnerships, innovative ideas and dedicated professionals — both of these institutions have contributed greatly to American life.

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@acclibrary.org or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720, ext. 17.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

The Contra Costa County Library's fourth annual teen reading program, "Like the Movie? Read the Book!", is open to teens in grades 6-12. To get started, pick up your reading record at the El Cerrito Library or download one from the library's Web site at ccclib.org. The program runs through Nov. 5.

Everyone who finishes at El Cerrito will receive a ticket for the local raffle held in the library for an iPod Shuffle, CD player and shower radio, and other prizes. The program ends with the workshop, "How to Make Your Own Comic Book," given by Oliver Chin, graphic artist, author and Harvard grad, on Nov. 8.

For more information, call the El Cerrito Library at 510-526-7512, come by the library at 6510 Stockton Ave. in El Cerrito, or check out the county library Web site at ccclib.org.

Children ages 3 and up and their families are invited to the El Cerrito Library on Saturday, Oct. 15 at 11 a.m. for a program of Halloween stories and crafts. After listening to some not-too-scary Halloween stories, each child will be invited to make a Halloween wind sock to take home to decorate his or her front door for the holiday. For more information, call the library at 510-526-7512.

A Great Books Discussion group meets on the third Tuesday of the month from 1-2 p.m. at the Albany Library. The selection for Tuesday, Oct. 18, is "Our Mutual Friend" by Charles Dickens. The Albany Library is located at 1247 Marin Ave. For more information, contact Ronnie Davis at 510-526-3720, ext. 16, or rdavis@acclibrary.org.

The Albany Library now has free wireless Internet. A library card is required. This service is available during library open hours (Monday, 12-6 p.m.; Tuesday, 12-8 p.m.; Wednesday, 12-8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.). For more information, contact Ronnie Davis at 510-526-3720, ext. 16 or rdavis@acclibrary.org.

Professor Tom Acord from the

Cal State Hayward Speaker's Bureau will lead a discussion of today's popular music at the Kensington Library on Monday, Oct. 10, at 7 p.m. Demonstrations will be included. This is a free event.

The Kensington Library is located at 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington. The library is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., closed Wednesdays, and open Thursdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fridays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The phone number is 510-524-3043.

A book sale will be held at the Kensington Library on Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. in the parking lot behind the library. The sale will include audio/videtapes, songbooks and scores, foreign language books, art books, children's books, cookbooks and mysteries, among others.

Tom Panas, president of the El Cerrito Historical Society, will talk about the new "Images of America" book on El Cerrito on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Albany Library. This program is part of the annual membership meeting of the Friends of the Albany Library. The public is invited. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Ronnie Davis at 510-526-3720, ext. 16.

The Albany Library will present poet Tobey Kaplan on Thursday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Kaplan is a master poet-teacher through "California Poets in the Schools." She has given workshops and presentations throughout the county regarding creative process, poetry, literacy and social change.

The library will also present a drop-in poetry-writing workshop led by Linda Elkin on Oct. 12 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Elkin's poems have been published in the *Bloomington Review*, *Green Mountains Review*, *Tar River*, 5 a.m., and in other journals and anthologies, including *Kindled Terraces: American Writers in Greece*.

Both events are in the Edith Stone Room and are free. Cookies will be served. Questions? Call Ronnie Davis at 510-26-3720, Ext. 5.

The Kensington Library has several fall programs planned. Family evening story times will be held Tuesdays at 7 p.m. except when pre-empted by special programs. Maggie Hooper from the Bat Conservation Fund will present a program on bats on Tuesday, Oct. 25, at 6:30 p.m. to celebrate Halloween. Illustrator Philippe Ames will present his book "Meow Said the Mouse" on Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 7 p.m. Jan Robitscher and her seeing-eye dog "Christmas" will present a program on guide dogs for the blind on Saturday, Nov. 19, at 11 a.m. For more information on any of these programs, call 510-524-3043.

The Albany Library has several fall programs planned. Weekly sing-alongs are held Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. by Dale Allen Boland, who has been sharing community music-making with the East Bay for more than 15 years. The sing-alongs are free and for all ages. No registration is required. Drop-in knitting groups for all ages are held on Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. Participants knit blankets for kittens and puppies. Knitting needles and yarn are provided, and all levels of knitters are welcome. Preschool story times are held on Saturdays through Oct. 29 at 11 a.m. No registration is required. For more information on any of the programs, contact Ronnie Davis at 510-526-3720, ext. 16.

Amy Gitelman's pastel paintings of Kensington will be on exhibit at the Kensington Library through Oct. 31. Gitelman paints on location with pastels, and is a resident of El Cerrito. Call 510-524-3043 for more information.

Children ages 3 and up and their families are invited to the El Cerrito Library for a series of Monday evening family story times continuing through Oct. 10. Each event will last about a half hour and will include songs and fingerplay, as well as stories on a particular theme. For details, call

the library at 510-526-7512.

The fall series of Lapsit story times (formerly known as Babytime and ToddlerTime) at the El Cerrito Library will continue through Nov. 17. These story times, which meet on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., are for babies and toddlers up to age 3 and their caregivers. Each meeting lasts about 20 minutes, and includes songs, bounces, games and fingerplay in addition to the stories. No registration required.

The newly formed Kensington Library Book Club will hold its first meeting on Monday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library. It will discuss Ethan Canin's novel, "Carry Me Across the Water," about intergenerational family issues, nurturing relationships, war, love and simple domestic pleasures.

Subsequent meetings will be held on the fourth Monday of every month at the library at 7 p.m. The club is sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library.

For details, call the Kensington Library at 510-524-3043.

—Craig Lazeretti

Library activity items may be e-mailed to journal@ccctimes.com.

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SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Albany

Albany Senior Center — Weekdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 846 Masonic Ave. Making group Mondays, 9 a.m. Home-delivered meals offered. Dinner 10 p.m. weekdays by reservation. 510-264-222.

Cerrito

Christ Lutheran Senior Center — Mondays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 780 Ashbury Ave. Conversational German and Spanish, current events, computers, handicrafts and exercise. There will be an outing to River Rock on Oct. 3. 510-524-1050.

St. John's Senior Center — Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 6500 Gladys Ave. Handicrafts, pressed-flower card-

making, painting and drawing, tin sculpture. 510-237-3808.

The Open House — Mondays-Thursdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Fridays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. 6500 Stockton Ave. Social recreation programs; support groups; health insurance counseling; monthly tea dance; senior excursions. Mind Works and weekly cash bingo. 510-215-4340.

Kensington

Kensington Senior Activity Center — Thursdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. There will be a potluck noon Oct. 6; bring a dish to serve four to six people or donate \$3. 510-526-9146.

—Dora Scardina

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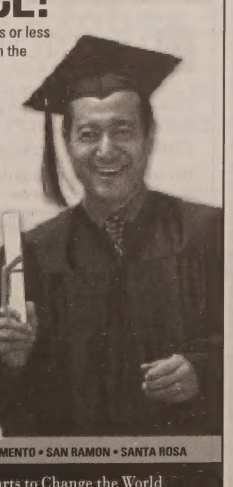
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Ready supplies for next disaster

HURRICANE KAT- RINA has made me aware of possible catastrophes in our area. This is earthquake country, and an earthquake is possible at any time. In fact, one is far over- due. We should all be prepared for it as well as we can with a situation that puts us all in jeopardy. Will you please remind everyone (not just us older folks) of the great need for us to have necessary supplies on hand?

As it has been so long since we have felt even a minor tremor, we have become far too complacent and quite un- worried. How important it is to start thinking again about a possible catastrophe. An earthquake is quite unpre- dictable and could happen any-

How should we prepare? Looking over past records and in- formation partly from the American Red Cross, I have made a few suggestions.

Although the items are mostly found in the home, if they are all accumulated they occupy a fair amount of space. Suggested containers in- clude one or two plastic reseal- able garbage containers, or other storage containers or heavy-duty plastic trash bags. The most important emer- gency supplies should, of course, be stored at the top of a chosen container. They in- clude a radio, flashlight, bat- teries, tools, pencil, paper and a first-aid kit. The informa- tion I found was printed be- fore the cellular phone craze, so I assume that such a phone would be included in any needed immediately, as- suming cell phone service re- turns up and running after a disaster.

Water is also a most basic need but should be stored sep- arately.

There should be two quarts of water per person per day. The recommended mini- mum reserve for food, water, medicine and other consum- able items is two weeks.

Basic supplies

Any canned food that is suitable hot or cold (fruit, veg- etables, juice, beans, etc.); non-perishable goods stores sell vari- ous types of dehydrated and freeze-dried foods, but be sure to check periodically for



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Spillage.

- Critical medication and eyeglasses
- A portable battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- A flashlight with spare batteries
- Fire extinguisher, dry chemical type
- Watch or clock, battery or spring wound
- Can opener, manual
- Blankets or sleeping bags for each person

Sanitation supplies

- Large plastic trash bags—for trash, waste, water protection and ground cloth
- Large trash cans
- Hand soap, liquid deter- gent and shampoo
- Toothpaste and tooth- brush.
- Deodorant
- Dentures
- Feminine supplies
- Infant supplies (diapers, etc.)
- Pre-moistened towelettes
- Toilet paper
- Powdered chlorinated lime — add to sewage to de- odorize, disinfect and keep away insects
- Newspapers — to wrap garbage and waste; also can be used for warmth

Safety supplies

- Heavy shoes — for every family member
- Heavy gloves — for every person clearing debris
- Candles and holder
- Matches — dipped in wax

and kept in waterproof container

- One change of clothing per person, sweater and foul- weather gear
- Knife or razor blades
- Garden hose — for si- phoning and fire fighting

Cooking supplies

- Barbecue — charcoal and lighter, Sterno stove or camp stove with fuel
- Sealable plastic bags (var- ious sizes)
- Paper plates, plastic knives, forks, spoons and cups
- Serving utensils — large spoon, spatula and knives
- Paper towels
- Heavy-duty aluminum foil

Tools and miscellaneous items

- Pencils and paper for leaving notes
- Adjustable wrench for turning off gas — (keep near shut-off valve)
- Ladder
- Screwdriver, pliers with wire cutters, hammer, ax, shovel and crowbar
- Broom and dustpan
- Coil of 1/2 inch rope
- Coil of bailing wire
- Duct tape
- An envelope containing cash, change and important phone numbers.

Let's hope we never need to use these supplies, but it's al- ways better to be safe than sorry, no matter what our age. Don't wait!

E-mail inquiries for Kensington resident Connie Lynch to conniemw@aol.com. Lynch, Ph.D., is the founder of Mind Works, a mental fitness program de- signed for older adults, and is the author of "Don't Lose Your Mind, Four Components of Su- perior Mental Fitness." For in- formation on books and classes, call 510-466-5833.

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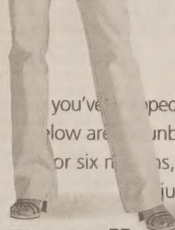
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Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Pam Middings, 1516 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail them to pmiddings@oaktimes.com or fax them to 510-748-1680. Call 510-748-1683 if you have questions.

Coming Up

Children/teens

■ **Los Amiguitos de la Pena** — Children's programs at 10:30 a.m., La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Oct. 1, Colibri. Latin American music with Alisa Peres & Luchi Fuentes. — Oct. 8, Ashbea. Family fun with Caribbean-themed musical storytelling. — Oct. 15, Juanita Ulloa & Ginny Morgan. — Oct. 22, Gary Lapow presents "Food & Fun." — Oct. 29, Betsy Rose. Tickets: \$3-\$4. Details: www.lapena.org.

■ **Showbiz for Kids** — Oct. 9, 4 p.m., Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Interactive children's music with Norma Mayer, soprano and Richard Mayer, flute. Children in audience invited to perform on stage. Tickets: \$10 adult, \$5 child; call 925-798-1300. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **Crowden School Open House** — Information night, Oct. 12, 7-8:30 p.m., 1475 Rose St., Berkeley. Middle school, grades 4-8, combines challenging curriculum with chamber music program for students of strings, piano, composition. Future dates: Nov. 2, Dec. 7, Jan. 11, Feb. 1. Details: 510-559-6910 or www.crowden.org.

■ **"Groovy Ghoulies"** — Oct. 16, 4 p.m., Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Pop-rock band the Sippy Cups play tunes for both kids & parents to enjoy, with circus performer, puppets, audience participation. Kids encourage to come in costume. Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 children; call 925-798-1300. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **Albany Karate for Kids** — Accepting enrollment for fall at Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Nonaggressive classes for ages 4-16 are taught by a female black belt instructor. Classes help develop self-confidence, skill & are fun. Details: 510-847-2400 or www.albanykarateforkids.com.

Community

■ **Mobile Blood Drives** — American Red Cross, Sept. 30, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. — Oct. 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., UC Berkeley/Circle K drive, MLK Student Union, 3rd Floor, East Pauley Ballroom, Berkeley. — Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., College of Engineering, Wozniak Lounge, 626 Soda Hall, Berkeley. Details: 800-448-3543 or www.BeADonor.com.

■ **Berkeley Historical Society** — Walk-



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RENOWNED MEZZO-SOPRANO CECILIA BARTOLI returns to Zellerbach Hall at UC Berkeley for the first time since 1991 on Thursday, Oct. 6, 7 p.m. Bartoli will be joined by the Zurich Orchestra La Scintilla to perform selections from her latest album, "Opera Proibita." Tickets are \$50-\$250. For tickets or more information, call 510-642-9988.

ing Tours, 10 a.m., Veterans Memorial Building, 1931 Center St., Berkeley. Fee: \$8-\$10. Oct. 1: "The Berkeley View Terrace Neighborhood." Details: 510-848-0181.

■ **East Bay Atheists** — Annual picnic, Oct. 1, 12-5 p.m., Big Leaf Picnic Area, Tilden Park, Berkeley. Features hamburgers, hot dogs, beer, soft drinks. Please bring a side dish (salad or dessert). Cost: \$5. Details/directions: Larry 510-222-7580.

■ **Spice of Life Festival** — Oct. 2, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., North Shattuck Avenue between Virginia & Rose Streets, North Berkeley. Gourmet Ghetto offers culinary demos, gourmet tastings by local restaurants & chefs, live music, farmers market, "kiddopia," artisans, yoga demos, more. Free. Details: 800-310-6563.

■ **Share for the Shelter** — Oct. 2, registration begins 8 a.m., Berkeley Aquatic Park, 80 Bolivar Drive, at foot of Bancroft Way. Bike, walk or run on a 2.3 mile flat loop; enjoy music, food and entertainment to benefit Berkeley Animal Shelter. Cost: \$20-\$25 adult, \$5 child under 12. Pre-register at www.active.com or register on-site. Details: 1-877-4-PAW-AID.

■ **Friends of the Kensington Library** — Book Sale, Oct. 2, 12-4 p.m., parking

lot, Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave.

■ **Tibetan Nyingma Institute** — Sundays, 5:45 p.m., Free Chant and Meditation. 1815 Highland Place, Berkeley. — Oct. 2, 6 p.m., Sylvia Gretchen on "New Gateway to Knowledge for the West." — Oct. 9, 6 p.m., Santosh Philip on "Healing Power of Tibetan Yoga." — Oct. 16, 6 p.m., Bob Byrne on "Beyond Meanings." — Oct. 23, 6 p.m., Lama Palzang, Pema Gelok on "Ways of Enlightenment." — Oct. 30, 6 p.m., Bob Russo on "Holistic Work." Details: 510-843-6812 or www.nyingmainstitute.com.

■ **El Cerrito's Citywide Garage Sale** — Oct. 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Nearly 100 El Cerrito households will host garage sales. Register now to host a garage sale at your home; deadline is Oct. 3, 4 p.m. Registration forms available at El Cerrito Recycling Center, Community Center, Senior Center, and City Hall. Registration open to El Cerrito residents only. \$10 registration fee covers advertising costs. Details: 510-215-4350.

■ **North Berkeley Senior Center** — Free events, Oct. 5, 1:15 p.m., birthday party, Joy Perin performs. — Oct. 7, 10:30 a.m., "Images of Aging" discussion for women with Melka Low. — Oct. 11, Connie Woods gives talk on home inspections (roof, pests, plumbing, elec-

trical areas.) — Oct. 12, 1:15 p.m., share a poem, song, short story, joke with Lynn Rayburn. Refreshments. — Oct. 14, 1 p.m., Harold Brown discusses BART safety. — Oct. 24, 10:15 a.m., Elephant Pharmacy, 1607 Shattuck Ave. Parkinson's Support Group meets; Peter Koshland, PharmD discusses drug therapy. — Oct. 26, 1:15 p.m., Jeff Carlson talks to Low Vision Group. — Oct. 31, 1 p.m., Stagebridge actors tell tales. Refreshments. — 1901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. Details: 510-981-5190.

■ **Take Flight with Aquatic Park EGRET** — Oct. 8, 4-6 p.m., the Cabin, northern terminus of Emeryville's Shell-mound Street. Food from Oak Plaza restaurant; watch park's egrets fly to treetop roosts. Donation \$15 requested. Supports EGRET's stewardship of Berkeley's tidal wetlands. Reservations: 510-549-0818.

■ **Gaucha Aid** — A Benefit for the Victims of Hurricane Katrina, Oct. 8, 12-5 p.m., El Cerrito High School football field, 540 Ashbury St., El Cerrito. Featuring local artists: Glass Hour, Pablo Cela and friends, Albany High School's Rhythm Bound, El Cerrito High School's Jazz Ensemble, and featuring headline keyboardist Frank Martin. Proceeds benefit American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. Tickets: \$5. Donations of

money, canned & dried food, clothing accepted. Details: Sophie 510-236-5736.

■ **Indigenous Peoples Day** — 14th annual Pow Wow, Indian Market, Oct. 8, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Martin Luther King Civic Center Park, Alston Way at M.L.K. Way, Berkeley. Intertribal dancing, contest dancing, round dancing. Native American foods, arts & crafts and American Indian culture. Free. Details: 510-595-5520 or www.red-coral.net/Pow.html.

■ **Quarter Meal fund-raiser** — Berkeley Food and Housing Project, Oct. 8, 5-7 p.m., Trinity Methodist Church, 2362 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Cost of meal: \$25 adults, \$10 youth 6-18. Children five and under free. Details: Carolyn 510-649-4965 x312 or cdoyle@bfhp.org.

■ **Crabby Chef Competition** — "Iron Chef" Style Cook-Off, Oct. 9, 2 p.m., Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto, 1919 Fourth St., Berkeley. Proceeds benefit Berkeley Historical Society. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m., cooking booths will sell crab treats, drinks; live music, seafood "road-show." Details: 510-845-7771.

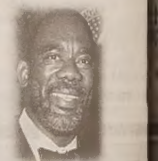
■ **Ecology Center's Berkeley Farmer's Markets** — Tuesday's Market 2-7 p.m. at Derby Street & Martin Luther King Jr. Way. — North Shattuck farmers market 3-7 p.m. Thursdays at Shattuck Avenue & Rose Street. All organically grown produce featured. — Saturday's market 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Civic Center Park, Center Street & Martin Luther King Jr. Way. All are open year 'round, rain or shine. Details: 510-548-3333 or www.ecologycenter.org.

■ **Albany Chamber of Commerce** — Monthly mixer, Oct. 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Albany Ford/Subaru, 718 San Pablo Ave. Check out their special allocation of Escape Hybrids, a fuel-efficient SUV endorsed by Sierra Club. Free food & drink. RSVP: 510-525-1771 or albany-chamber@bigplanet.com.

■ **Program at the Albany Center**, 846 Meserve Way. Low Vision Support Group, Oct. 12 p.m., Albany. — Tuesday's at 2:30 p.m., Oct. 12, 15 minute session. — Sierra Club Group, Fridays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., \$3.00 per person. — Issues Support Group, Oct. 12 p.m., \$15. — Politics group meets Thursdays, p.m., for 10 weeks through people 60+ years. \$25.00 includes refreshments. Location: 510-524-9122.

■ **Election officers** needed throughout Alameda County. Voters need to be eligible to register to vote in County, have basic citizenship. Stipend range \$80-\$100. 272-6971.

Obituaries and In Memoriam



In Celebration of Dr. Tipkins Hood

Dr. Tipkins Hood, an orthopedic surgeon who gave 25 years of service to the Oakland-Bay Area community, died of natural causes on Sept. 22 at his home in Oakland. Dr. Hood, husband of Carol H. Williams-Hood, was born in Camden, Texas, in 1936. Tipkins Hood earned a medical degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn. He served his country voluntarily as a Naval aviator from 1960 to 1970. He was awarded the Bronze Star, a Meritorious Service Award, and a Vietnamese Medal of Honor.

Dr. Hood moved to the Bay Area and opened his practice in 1974. He served a wide range of clients, including the elderly and the indigent. His medical insights at the Oakland Police & Fire Retirement Association, the Oakland and the Social Security Administration. Dr. Hood also served Northern California business community by helping hospitals, hotels and other business ventures.

A deeply spiritual man, Dr. Hood was a longtime member of Downs Memorial United Methodist Church in Oakland. In retirement, he continued to express the core essential of care: compassion and care. He was well known for his wit and his love to travel, fish and cook.

Dr. Tipkins Hood is survived by his beloved wife, Williams-Hood; his son, Tipkins Hood Jr.; his daughter, Henny Hood; his daughter-in-law, Leslie Hardy Hood; his son, Tipkins Milton Hood. Dr. Hood leaves behind a large family and many members and friends.

Zoning

FROM PAGE A1

In addition, the new document asks whether an increased density should be offered for housing/retail developments in the transit-oriented zones; or for mixed-use projects where more than 50 percent of the square footage is residential. The allowed density is 45 units per acre.

The planning commission will discuss that issue, but changes in density will require a general plan amendment. That could take a year to 18 months to accomplish, Carman said.

Another item for discussion will be creek setbacks — the distance between buildings

and creeks. The zoning ordinance proposes a 30-foot setback, and asks whether that's too restrictive or too lenient.

Other proposed changes include:

■ Reducing home height limits at their highest point by 5 feet. Residents wishing to go above that limit by a maximum of 5 feet would need a use permit from the planning commission.

■ Allowing fence heights to increase from 6 to 10 feet, provided the planning commission grants permission.

■ A new telecommunications ordinance. The regulations require that cell phone antennas be largely kept out of site, though residents have asked for stricter regulations that prohibit the an-

tennas from residential areas.

Federal law requires that the city provide reasonable accommodations for the antennas.

"As staff, we're between a rock and a hard place," Carman said. "We're either going to make people unhappy or get sued. We're trying to figure out the best way to regulate the towers to meet everyone's needs and concerns."

The planning commission held a public hearing Wednesday to discuss the zoning changes and made it through three of 34 chapters. Another meeting is scheduled Wednesday, with two more expected to follow, planning commission chair Doug Mansel said.

The commission will ultimately make a recommendation

to the City Council, which will hold at least two hearings of its own to decide whether to approve the document.

"These things are long, they're not the sexiest things in the world," said City Councilman Bill Jones. "Zoning are nuts and bolts things, but they are important in the planning process."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@oaktimes.com.

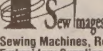
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Music

PAGE A1

It's not to say it lacks any more mainstream. CDs by Crow and Berkeley-based Green Day cross over well to younger people. It's that the children of the core customers will discover music when they're 10 years old.

"Guitar Center," he said, "is a place where you can still discover this music. Even though they've been around for 30 years, and when they do, they're usually excited about it." The store also houses the offices of Arhoolie Records and live in-store performances every month.

Located in the city's northern end, the Music Works at 11225 Shattuck Ave. There, guitars and amplifiers line the walls while moms and dads look on as their children and local musicians look at the new gear.

Originally located in the parking lot of the Golden Gate Lanes, the store's co-owner Joanne said she considered moving to another city after she and her husband Duane "Pudgy" took it over in 1980, about 10 years after it opened.

She liked El Cerrito's family-friendly nature and wanted to move to its current location in 1987, about eight years after the national chain Guitar Center moved in.

Joanne said she was initially skeptical about Guitar Center, but

it hasn't hurt her business. Music Works offers lessons and caters mostly to families, while Guitar Center caters more to working musicians and "boys who are into hard rock," she said.

"By and large, we have a pretty friendly relationship, especially with Down Home Music," Wong said.

"Guitar Center," she added with a laugh. "I don't know if it's friendly, but we know they're there and they know we're here, I guess."

A store manager at Guitar Center said the business had originally been in Oakland and Berkeley before arriving in El Cerrito about 10 years ago.

Ifshin took over an existing violin store in Berkeley in 1981, before moving to his current location at 1633 University Ave. in 1983.

A former home and psychotherapist office, Ifshin's building has a cozy charm, and is packed with string instruments, posters and paraphernalia.

That's part of the problem, said Ifshin. He's expanded the building as much as he can but still needs more space.

"If we didn't need more space, we probably wouldn't have left Berkeley," said Ifshin, a former diesel mechanic and Albany resident. "We wouldn't have been looking. But we just couldn't find the right building in Berkeley or Albany."

He found the right spot, a vacant 8,000-square-foot office building, at 6420 Fairmount Ave. in El Cerrito. Ifshin wants to remodel the building and add a 4,500-

square-foot second story addition.

There's just one problem: According to Ifshin, the city's design review board wants the front door facing Fairmount Avenue, while Ifshin, for security reasons, wants it on the rear of the building facing the 33-space parking lot.

El Cerrito Planning Manager Jennifer Carman said the board was more interested in improving the aesthetics of the building facing Fairmount Avenue, and that may or may not include a front door.

"Fairmount Avenue is a main street," said Carman, "and they want to make sure it's a pleasant place for pedestrians to be."

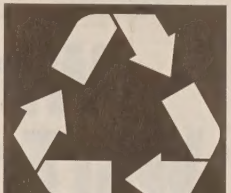
Nevertheless, earlier this week Ifshin met with city planners and police to resolve the problem. He believed it could be worked out.

"I'm really excited and looking forward to moving our business to El Cerrito," he said.

Councilman Jones said the new music store would benefit the city.

"It helps in the diversity in what we're offering," he said. "It makes us a little bit more exciting."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cetimes.com.



Grant allows building of 5 sports fields

By Martin Snapp
STAFF WRITER

Five new sports fields will be constructed at the foot of Gilman Street, thanks to two \$1 million state grants. The grants, which bring the total funds raised for the playing fields to \$5 million, will be provided to the East Bay Regional Parks District as part of a joint project with State Parks, Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito, Emeryville and Richmond. The Association of Sports Field Users, Citizens for East-

shore State Park and the Audubon Society are also partners in this effort.

Four of the five fields are now completely funded, and efforts are under way to secure the final \$1 million to complete the project. The complex will include two year-round illuminated soccer fields, two softball fields, and a full-sized baseball diamond.

Construction is set to begin next May, with the first fields opening in September.

"People said it wasn't possi-

ble for us to move this quickly, but we're proving them wrong," said Berkeley Mayor Tom Bates. "I look forward to cutting the ribbon by this time next year."

The site design can be viewed at www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/mayor/docs/gilmanfields.pdf. The grant for the playing fields was a major reason why the City Council rejected Gilman Street as a site for a ferry terminal at its meeting last week.

"There just isn't room enough for both," Bates said.

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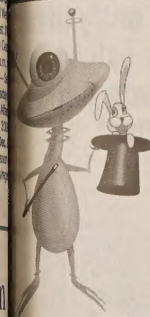
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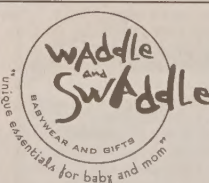
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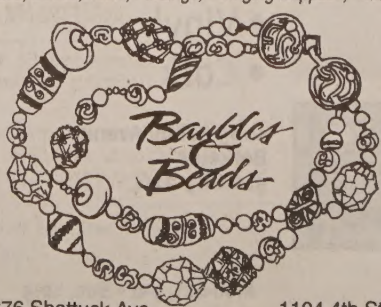
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Rentals

FROM PAGE A1

The Santa Clara district built the luxury Casa Del Maestro apartments, which opened in 2002. The 40 high-ceiling units — complete with garage, patio or balcony and laundry facilities — cost the district \$6 million.

The San Mateo County Community College District followed suit and will unveil its \$9 million College Vista complex this fall. The 44 Craftsman-style apartments sit on bluffs overlooking San Francisco Bay.

Rents at each location sit halfway below market rate. In Santa Clara, a one-bedroom rents for about \$700 a month and a two-bedroom costs \$1,100 a month. In San Mateo, a three-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment costs \$1,400 a month, said Barbara Christensen, San Mateo's director of community and government relations.

Nearly 100 people entered the lottery, Christensen said.

"I've got a pretty healthy waiting list," she said.

Santa Clara and San Mateo borrowed the money for the projects using a certificate of participation. Rent will cover repayment over 30 years, interest and building upkeep.

With no need to buy land or turn a profit, Christensen said, costs remained low enough to offer cheaper rates.

As an investment, Perotti said the projects posed little financial risk because of rising land prices: Santa Clara's complex has already doubled in worth to \$12.5 million.

"I thought if anything, we could also sell it, make a nice profit off it," said Perotti, who now spends part of his time consulting for districts from Santa Barbara to Las Vegas interested in building their own Casa.

"Some districts are doing it as investment."

In Albany, district leaders want to develop three locations: Solano Avenue near Cornell Avenue, Jackson Street near Castro Street and on San Gabriel Avenue near Albany Middle School.

The project differs from those in Santa Clara and San Mateo in that it will include commercial and residential space.

In the call for developer proposals, the district asked that developers design offices for the district, affordable housing (for police



THE ALBANY YMCA BUILDING on Solano Avenue is one site that could be developed into housing for district employees.

officers and firefighters, as well as teachers) and retail space. The projects should also include nine child-care classrooms at one or more of the sites.

A commercial site on bustling Solano Avenue could be leased at full price, said Superintendent Wong. The district could also rent some apartments at market rate to help subsidize the lower-cost units, he said.

So far, the idea has won support from the Albany Teachers Union, said Albany High School teacher and union representative David De Hart.

"If this is one way to generate income," De Hart said, "I think it's a great idea."

He also hopes it might convince some of the district's younger teachers to stick around. De Hart said one promising teacher recently moved to Vancouver, Wash., so she could buy a home.

De Hart himself lives in Oakland, rather than Albany.

"I could never afford to live there."

Shirley Dang covers education. Reach her at 510-262-2798 or sdang@cctimes.com.

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Modeling? Checking those references is very important

to know your remodeler before the first driven

you begin your search for a remodeling contractor to help you remodel your home you are probably confounded by the variety of remodeling contractors. Some go without a license, some change orders, and some have field employees. The best way to learn about the remodeling contractors you are interviewing is to ask questions. Readers of previous issues will know that the best way to get the real answers is to ask questions of the references which have been answered with a "yes" or "no" instead of asking, "Was the work good?" you might get an example of what the quality of the work was like. People just need an invitation to share their experiences with you. What else do you want to know about your remodeler that you can't find out from references? Look at what might turn out to be useful insights into how it will work with your remodeler.

What does your remodeler do when he is not remodeling? Given that a remodeler manages a large group of people, each with their own agenda, it is important that your remodeler be comfortable in that role.

Suppose your remodeler's favorite off-work activity is on-line game playing.

What does that tell you about the remodeler? Might not be super social, which could be a problem when those difficult conversations have to occur.

On the other hand, what if your remodeler plays a team sport? You might infer from that knowledge that he works well with others and can focus on the group's goals, not just his own. This can be most important when the team (which, by the way, you are a part of) working on your house has a difficult issue to address. Working through the reality with a team player is much easier to do than an individual who really prefers to spend time by himself.

What does your remodeler do to contribute to the community? Why does this matter? To be able to contribute to the community a remodeler needs to have a business



PAUL WINANS
From the Ground Up

Learn about the remodeler's activities and interests outside the day-to-day running of the business and you will learn a lot about what it would be to work with that remodeler.

that functions somewhat independently of his full-time involvement. That lack of reliance on the remodeler makes it more likely that your project will go smoothly even

See WINANS, Page B2

Real Estate Spotlight:

Rockridge home and apartment in park-like setting



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Downstairs are three bedrooms, including the master suite, each with walk-in closets equipped with built-in organizers, and two baths. The master suite has a southern exposure and Bay view. It has its own deck, and an exciting, colorful and luxurious bath with slate floors and curved, acid-etched glass doors. No expense has been spared in the quality design, craftsmanship and materials throughout this exceptional home.

Price: \$1,550,000.

Listing agent: Diana Mendler, Marvin Gardens Real Estate, 510-527-9111.

Winans

FROM PAGE B1

If something happens to your remodeler while your project is underway.

A remodeler who contributes to the community also knows many people whose assistance can be very helpful when a problem occurs with your project.

Suppose your remodeler has worked with the local building department to refine the permit approvals process and, by doing so, has gotten to know the officials in the department. Those relationships will make it easier to be heard when and if there is a problem that needs to be resolved.

What trade associations does your remodeler participate in? To be able to succeed in the remodeling business a remodeler needs to be able to work well with others and focus on both long term and short-term considerations. One of the best ways to get that type of experience is to join and work in a trade association.

By doing so a remodeler learns a number of things. Who is the competition and what do they do well that could be integrated into his business? What is the future of the industry and how can those insights benefit his clients? What is it like to work with other remodelers to help shape the industry so that it serves the needs of remodeling clients better?

The skills developed in this environment translate directly to making your project run better. Working successfully with volunteers is harder than running a remodeling project, as those of you who have done so can testify.

As you go through the process of considering different remodelers try to learn more about the remodelers than simply what kind of work do they do. Learn about the remodeler's activities and interests outside the day-to-day running of the business and you will learn a lot about what it would be to work with that remodeler.

The more you know the more likely it is that your choice of who to work with will be the best one.

Paul Winans can be reached at 510-653-7288 or at winconline.com.

Classic combines comfort style and convenience



BY DON AND DAVE RUNYAN U-BUILD

With a winning combination of comfort and good looks, it's easy to see what makes an Adirondack-style chair a classic. This build-it-yourself version adds "convenience" to the formula: it folds up for easy storage.

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Internet generates 33 percent of realty business

California Association of Realtors releases 2005 Use of Technology Survey

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

The California Association of Realtors recently released its 2005 Use of Technology Survey. The survey tracks current trends in technology used by Realtors. These include computer and technology usage and Internet needs, as well as adoption within their real estate business. C.A.R. conducted the survey during

the second quarter of 2005.

Highlights of the survey include:

- 90 percent of Realtors have a high-speed Internet connection at home, an increase from 82 percent a year ago and 71 percent in 2003;

- 46 percent of Realtors use e-mail as their primary form of communication with their clients;

- 31 percent said a Blackberry or Treo was their most important technology upgrade in 2005;

- 61 percent of Realtors post listings to their own Web site;

- 67 percent of Realtors find the

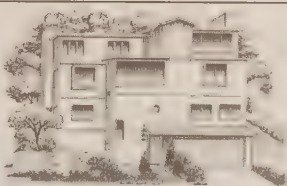
Internet extremely or very important in the marketing and promotion of their business;

- 33 percent of Realtors' business is coming from the Internet.

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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. BIG views on this Upper Rockridge cul-de-sac. Four + bedrooms, three and one half baths, real gourmet kitchen, family/game room. Another Claudia Ellinghaus/Mike David/Chris Lasak collaboration. Sensational custom details. This one has it all!

6241 Contra Costa
Upper RockridgeThe GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COMCAROLYN JONES
Office: 510.652.2133/439
cjones@grubbco.com

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. An extraordinary new listing in fabled Claremont community! A beautifully proportioned & spacious home of five bedrooms, three baths, remodeled state-of-the-art kitchen opens to family room, formal living & dining room. Large, landscaped, edible gardens with deck & hot tub in a private setting!



Offered at \$1,700,000

96 The Plaza Drive, Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COMSUSIE SCHEVILL
Office: 510.652.2133/444
sschevill@grubbco.com
SusieSchevill.com

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Bountiful roses invite you to move right into this beautifully renovated home, complete with high-end finishes throughout. Elegantly designed garden areas surround a spacious patio built for outdoor entertaining, including a built-in barbeque and putting green.



100 Estate Drive, Napa

Offered at \$1,375,000

LINDA MCCLAIN
510.339.0400/226
mcclain@grubbco.comThe GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COMELIZABETH DICKSON
510.339.0400/227
dickson@grubbco.com

Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section. The first place to look when looking for a new home



ROLLED UP AND SET TO GO: Members of the Alameda Association of Realtors' "Funky Formal" Fund-raiser Committee invite you to "Go Polyester" and help Alameda Meals on Wheels. From left to right are: Rob Platt, Colleen McFerrin, Sherry Marr, Chuck Bianchi, chairman Jeff Goldman, Mario Mariani, Garrick Werdmuller, Marianne Malenk, Donna Smyth, Nina Jones. Not pictured: Constance Farber.

Alameda Realtors 'Go Polyester'

and it's all for a good cause

BY PETER HOLMES
REALTOR AFFILIATE

It's time to get funky! It's the Alameda Association of Realtors' First Annual "Funky Formal", and it's coming to the Elks Lodge on Santa Clara Ave. in Alameda tomorrow from 6 to 11 p.m. The event will benefit Alameda Meals on Wheels with a live band, dancing, a raffle, silent auction and, of course, outrageous polyester outfits! Suggested attire for the evening are your funkiest outfits: think ugly suits, prom outfits, and anything else inspired by fashion designers gone wrong. All of this fun and poor fashion sense will benefit an important cause, and the success of the event will

assist Alameda Meals on Wheels and its new companion program — Alameda Friendly Visitors — to provide needed services to homebound neighbors in Alameda.

Since 1973, Alameda Meals on Wheels has provided a hot, nourishing meal daily to any homebound Alameda resident who has requested assistance, regardless of their age or ability to pay.

Whether it's purchasing a raffle ticket at the event for a chance to win a trip to Hawaii or breaking-out your best disco moves on the dance floor with your friends, participants at this year's "Funky Formal" will be making a positive contribution for the community.

The event is open to the public; purchase tickets by contacting the Alameda Association of Realtors at 510-523-7229.

Who's entitled to buyer's deposit in failed real estate deal?

■ Legal ramifications may surprise you

INMAN NEWS

Sellers often feel that they should be entitled to keep the buyer's deposit money if the buyer fails to complete the purchase for any reason. But, more often than not, when a home purchase transaction falls apart, the deposit ends up being returned to the buyer.

Most purchase contracts include contingencies. These are conditions that must be satisfied in order for the sale to go through. Usually, the buyer is entitled to have his/her deposit returned if he/she is unable to satisfy a contingency, depending on how the contract is written.

For example, suppose the buyers include a contingency that specifies the terms of the financing they'll need to arrange in order to close the deal. Furthermore, the clause stipulates that if the buyers are unable to obtain that financing, their deposit will be returned to them. They earnestly attempt to line up the financing, but are unable to do so. Maybe interest rates rose to

a point where they could no longer qualify for the loan they needed. Or, perhaps their credit report turned up issues that made it impossible for them to qualify. In either case, the buyers would probably be released from the contract without penalty.

However, let's say these buyers didn't attempt to obtain financing. Instead, they went out and bought

Sellers often feel that they should be entitled to keep the buyer's deposit money if the buyer fails to complete the purchase for any reason. But . . .



DIAN HYMER
House Hunting

buyers have their real estate agent prepare the purchase contract using preprinted forms that have been drafted by attorneys. Once the purchase contract is signed by the seller it becomes legally binding, and it includes all the terms and conditions that will apply to the transaction.

HOUSE HUNTING

TIP: Having real estate agents prepare purchase contracts usually works fine. But, if there is a glitch in the transaction that requires a legal interpretation, your real estate agent will not be able to help you unless your agent is also an attorney. It's against the law for someone who is not an attorney to practice law.

Many buyers and sellers have a hard time understanding why their real estate agent who prepared the

See HYMER, Page B5

coming soon

Elmwood classic! Beautiful brown shingle wit double lot! Five bedrooms, five and one half bath, formal dining room, family room opening to sunny deck and level garden! Quiet grandeur close to shops and BART!

Offered at \$1,750,000



2834 Hillegass Avenue
Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.
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GRUBBCO.COM

BEBE MCRAE
Office: 510.652.2133/415
bmcrac@grubbco.com

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This elegant English Tudor is located in the heart of Crocker Highlands. A truly lovely home it has been meticulously restored and carefully maintained. Features include a gourmet kitchen with breakfast room, cozy den with second fireplace, three bedrooms, sunroom, beautifully landscaped gardens and level lawn with play structure.

Offered at \$1,500,000



1183 Sunnyhills Road, Oakland

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
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MARY MERRICK
Office: 510.339.0400/315
mmerrick@grubbco.com

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Restoring history one house at a time

Open Sunday!



View a tour of this beautifully done 3+BD/2BA at our website, then come see it this Sunday!

\$799,000

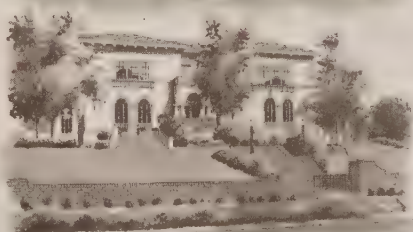
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60 Bellevue Avenue
Piedmont



A neo-classical masterpiece in central Piedmont. Experience stately grandeur with beautiful period details and classic lines! An exquisite state-of-the-art kitchen and a sweeping staircase are enchanting, as well as the glorious tree-lined street.

Offered at \$4,989,000

JEAN SIMMONS
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simmons@grubbco.com

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

ANIAN TUNNEY
510.339.0400/217
tunney@grubbco.com

1645 Portland Ave., Berkeley



This well maintained and updated Spanish bungalow is ideally located in the Thousand Oaks neighborhood of North Berkeley. It's just steps to the favorite Solano Ave. area of shops and cafes, with Memorial Park right down the street. Its many amenities include:

- 2 bedrooms and 2 baths
- Living and dining rooms
- Cook's kitchen w/Viking Range
- Sunny garden off kitchen
- Hardwood floors and fireplace
- Garage and extra storage

Priced at \$665,000

**Open Sunday Oct. 2nd
Before Hearing Offer**

**Anne L. Politeo and
Tim Q. Cannon,
Listing Agents**
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\$1,495,000

- 4 bedrooms, 4 baths
- Spacious master suite
- Studio has separate entrance
- Elevator to all levels

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www.julienachtwey.com
510.540.8743

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

A sampling of our current listings:



San Pablo

Cute 3bd/1ba home -- hardwood floors, new double pane windows, tiled kitchen and bath. Roof is 5 years old. White picket fence front yard and many fruit trees in backyard
\$425,000



San Francisco -- Mission

Beautiful 3-unit Edwardian. 2 bnd units, wonderfully updated 3rd top floor unit with views to Twin Peaks. Ideal investment or as TICs (two units vacant at COE).
\$1,795,000



Mill Valley

Charming 4 bd, 1 ba home in popular Sycamore Park close to schools, rec center, downtown & more. Refinished floors and new paint inside and outside facade. Use as is or bring your imagination. There's lots of potential.
\$950,000



**Prudential
California Realty**

Jim Hedges
manager
stunkin@att.com
415-762-9399

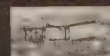


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California home prices continue to rise

Existing home prices increased 20.1 percent; sales up 7 percent compared August 2004

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

The median price of a home in California stood at \$568,890 in August, which was up 20.1 percent from year ago; sales increased 7 percent, California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.) reported.

"California hit a new record median of \$568,890 in August," said C.A.R. President Jim Hamilton. "This was the second strongest August sales figure on record dating back to 1979, surpassed only by August 2003.

"While fixed mortgage interest rates have not increased, adjustable rates have risen in reaction to the Federal Reserve and a more general increase in short-term rates," he said. "Since more buyers are relying on adjustable-rate mortgages to finance the purchase of their homes, buyers may be moving more quickly to make the home purchase decision in anticipation of future rate increases. This is adding more pressure to the price of a home."

Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaled 632,240 in August at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate, according to information collected by C.A.R. from more than 90 local Realtor associations statewide. Statewide home resale activity increased 7 percent from the 591,150 sales pace recorded in August 2004.

The statewide sales figure represents what the total number of homes sold during 2005 would be if sales maintained the August pace throughout the year. It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

The median price of an existing, single-family detached home in California during August 2005 was \$568,890, a 20.1 percent increase over the revised \$473,520 median for August 2004, C.A.R. reported. The August 2005 median price increased 5.2 percent compared with July's \$540,900 median price.

"Los Angeles County is on track to break the previous sales record set in 2003, while the median

GREATEST MEDIAN PRICE INCREASES

Sanger, 78 percent
West Sacramento, 67 percent
Twenty-nine Palms, 63 percent
San Bruno, 60 percent
Culver City, 49 percent
San Bernardino, 49 percent
California City, 48 percent
Merced, 47 percent
Visalia, 46 percent
Montebello, 45 percent.

— compared with August 2004

surged to \$564,340," said C.A.R. Vice President and Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young. "For the first time since March, Orange County saw a double-digit year-to-year increase in the median price of a home, and is on track to break 2003 sales records as well."

"Sales in the San Francisco Bay Area continued to fall below last year's pace, but remain at elevated levels that approximate the market in 2003," she said. "The median price continued its trend of year-to-year percentage increases in the low teens."

Highlights

■ C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes in August 2005 was 2.9 months, compared with 3.6 months for the same period a year ago. The index indicates the number of months needed to deplete the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.

■ Thirty-year fixed mortgage interest rates averaged 5.82 percent during August 2005, compared with 5.87 percent in August 2004, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable mortgage interest rates averaged 4.55 percent in August 2005 compared with 4.06 percent in August 2004.

■ The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 29 days in August 2005, compared with 26 days (revised) for the same period a year ago.

The MLS median price and sales data for detached homes are generated from a survey of more than 90 associations of Realtors throughout the state. MLS median price and

HIGHEST MEDIAN PRICES

Laguna Beach, \$1,550,000
Los Altos, \$1,515,250
Manhattan Beach, \$1,484,500
Burlingame, \$1,450,000
Palos Verdes Estates, \$1,415,000
Calabasas, \$1,351,500
Saratoga, \$1,307,500
Newport Beach, \$1,298,250
Mill Valley, \$1,257,500
Rancho Palos Verdes, \$1,201,500

sales data for condominiums are based on a survey of more than 60 associations. The median price for both detached homes and condominiums represents closed escrow sales.

In a separate report covering more localized statistics generated by C.A.R. and DataQuick Information Systems, 96.8 percent or 417 of 431 cities and communities showed an increase in their respective median home prices from a year ago.

DataQuick statistics are based on county records data rather than MLS information. DataQuick Information Systems is a subsidiary of Vancouver-based MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates. The top 10 lists are generated for incorporated cities with a minimum of 30 recorded sales in the month.

Large changes in local median home prices typically indicate both local home price appreciation, and often, large shifts in the composition of housing market activity. Some of the variations in median home prices may be exaggerated due to compositional changes in housing demand.

Leading the way in California real estate for 100 years, the California Association of Realtors (www.car.org) is one of the largest state trade organizations in the United States, with more than 180,000 members dedicated to the advancement of professionalism in real estate. C.A.R. is headquartered in Los Angeles.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER.

Berkeley Historical Society announces its fall walking tours

BERKELEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Berkeley Historical Society announces its series of fall walking tours through Saturday, Nov. 12 with the bonus tour of the Ashby Arts District.

All tours start at 10 a.m. and end about noon. Tours are limited to 30 paying participants unless otherwise noted and pre-paid reservations are required. The non-refundable donation for each tour is \$8 for BHS members and \$10 for the general public.

Season tour tickets are available to BHS members only for \$30 for all tours. BHS annual membership is \$20 for an individual and \$25 for a family. Tours conducted rain, shine or Berkeley fog, and are wheelchair accessible unless noted otherwise.

For more information, call 510-848-0181 or visit www.cityofberkeley.info/histoc/

SATURDAY, OCT 1

Berkeley View Terrace Neighborhood
This residential development was laid out in 1926 on land belonging to one of the private water companies that supplied water to Berkeley prior to the building of East Bay Municipal Utility District's pipeline from the Sierra Nevada. The neighborhood borders UC Berkeley land on the south and Tilden Park along its eastern boundary. The walk will follow the winding, and sometimes steep roads that offer frequent views over the Bay. Along the way we will see examples of changing architectural styles over almost 80 years and observe how open grassy hillsides have been transformed into the woodland neighborhood of today. Led by Phil Rogers, a long time resident.

SATURDAY, OCT 15

How Can a Poor Man Stand and Live in Times Like These or the History of Working Class West Berkeley
Led by historic preservationist, landmark researcher and raconteur Dale Smith, this walking tour takes us through Industrial West Berkeley. Although much is made about the artist colony and intelligentsia of East Berkeley around the University, it was West Berkeley that was the economic engine that allowed Berkeley to prosper. Walk through time from earthquake to earthquake and see for yourself if the area has adapted well to changing times.

SUNDAY, OCT. 23

Transformations Around the Old Santa Fe Station
Lead architect, David Finn will be presenting the recently completed new Synagogue, Netivot Shalom (Paths of Peace). Then Phil Gale, BHS Board Member and early railroad expert will tell about the history of the Santa Fe Station. Bill Richardson, business manager, will lead us on a tour of the new Montessori School. Last we will ascend to the studio of Michele Manning in the Strawberry Creek Design Center.

SUNDAY, OCT. 30

South Berkeley Sidewalk Secrets.
This tour looks at concrete paving — sidewalks, curbs, driveways, retaining walls and other mundane features of the South Berkeley residential landscape. Stamps of concrete contractors and unions provide clues about urban social and economic history. Similarly, manholes, hydrants and other cover plates document early water companies/utilities and local foundries. Led by Ken Duffy, a South

All tours start at 10 a.m. and end about noon. Tours are limited to 30 paying participants unless otherwise noted and pre-paid reservations are required.

Berkeley native and things unknown. He is a technical degree in geography, who has been meeting and publishing change graphics company Ken. He is currently at the Berkeley Industrial Resources.

SATURDAY, OCT. 15

Bonus tour, Berkeley New and Old
As a bonus tour for those who attend at least three tours, you are invited to join Meet with the Community. Then to Patricia, an East Bay artist director, now residing in South Berkeley. Last, around the corner Klot, owner of and Textiles and a collection of the handwork.

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Sophisticated and spacious home with four bedrooms plus a home office and four baths. Perfect floor plan. Expansive eat-in kitchen adjoins family room with serene hill views. Elegant formal rooms, fireplace, hardwood floors, large patio for entertaining.

Offered at \$1,185,000

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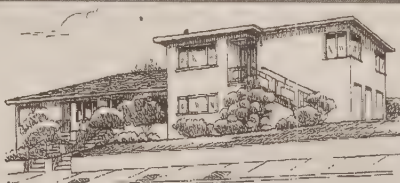
JILL CARRIGAN
Office: 510.339.0400/328
jcarrigan@grubbco.com



6928 Bristol Drive, Berkeley

STASKY & COMPANY REAL ESTATE

NEW LISTING



6423-27-31 Stockton Avenue, El Cerrito

Open Sunday 2-4:30 Just Listed!

Handsome Triplex Built in 1956 by Owner as his family home and income property. Building consists of an updated three bedroom, two bath unit, ideal for owner occupant, plus two charming one bedroom, one bath units, three garages and laundry room. Beautiful, newly painted exterior, all new dual-paned windows, four year old roof and in excellent condition! Convenient location to BART, E.C. plaza and transportation.

Offered at \$895,000

John Stasky & Company Real Estate
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Photos at www.Johnstasky.com



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Executive Estate

OPEN SUN OCT. 2ND 2-5PM

3299 BRUNELL DRIVE

A very bright home with open contemporary floor plan in the heart of the East Bay hills. Very private. Great San Francisco, Golden Gate, South Bay panoramic views. Wonderful usable half acre lot. In-law unit with sauna. 5 BR 3.5 Bath, large living room, gourmet kitchen, family entertainment center, Master suite with Jacuzzi tub. Large patios, landscaped backyard w/ fruit trees, 2 car garage, workshop w/ view, wine cellar. Lot split potential.

REDUCED TO
\$1,295,000.

Yehuda Ben-David (510) 524-3510

www.newspringrealestate.com



new listing

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 2-4:30. Charming two + bedroom, one+ bath bungalow. This lovely home features a gracious living room with matchstick hardwood floors, built-ins and a fireplace. Tastefully remodeled kitchen and bathroom. Sunny garden with a deck, patios and fruit trees. Ample storage. Conveniently located near North Berkeley BART, Monterey Market and 4th St. shops and restaurants.

Offered at \$659,000

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JENNIFER FICKENSCHER
Office: 510.652.2133/460
jfickensch@grubbco.com



1379 Delaware Street

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Fabulous Craftsman in a coveted block of Rockridge, within easy access to BART, shops and restaurants. Living room with fireplace and built-ins, formal dining room with fireplace and box-beamed ceiling, two spacious bedrooms, study, remodeled kitchen and bath, private garden and double garage.

Offered at \$745,000

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5522 Taft Avenue, Oakland

SUSIE SCHEVILL
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open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A charming Parkwoods condominium with modern amenities & stylish architecture. This Montclair model features two bedrooms, two full baths, an excellent kitchen, hardwood floors and is conveniently located close to restaurants, shopping and hiking trails.

Offered at \$499,000

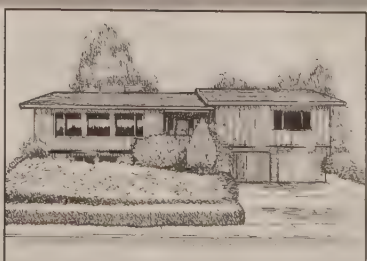
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ADAM BETTA
Office: 510.339.0400/251
abetta@grubbco.com



260 Caldecott Lane #124, Oakland

Mid-Century Beauty in the El Cerrito Hills



8661 Don Carol, El Cerrito
Offered at \$759,000

OPEN SUNDAY OCTOBER 2ND

This lovely three bedroom home is located in the El Cerrito Hills. It has a stunning panoramic view. The kitchen has the unbelievably large backyard (the lot is 1.5 acres sq. ft.). Newly refinished floors and new paint. A very large home office room is on the lower level.

Roy Grigsby
510.845.0211 Office
510.273.9756 Vocational
Roy.Grigsby@Prudential.com

Prudential
California Realty

Hymer

PAGE B3

contract for them can't advise them much things as who's entitled to deposit if the transaction fails. However, inconvenient it might be to consult with an attorney before siding to lay claim to a buyer's

deposit, it's absolutely essential.

In one case, a buyer backed out for what he thought were sound reasons. The seller asked his agent if he was entitled to the buyer's deposit. The agent said yes. Based on this advice, the seller refused to return the buyer's deposit. The buyer then hired his own attorney, sued the seller and won.

Residential purchase contracts often include a liquidated damages clause, which sets a limit on the damages that could be awarded to the sellers if the buyers breach the contract. A breach occurs when the buyers back out for a reason that's not provided for in the contract.

Sellers frequently assume that if both the buyers and sellers have

agreed to include a liquidated damages clause in the contract, this means that the buyers will automatically lose their deposit if they fail to close the transaction. In some cases this might be so; in some cases not.

THE CLOSING: Before jumping to a conclusion, consult an attorney.

Dian Hymer can be reached at

510-339-4777 or by e-mail at Dian@Dianhymer.com.

PLEASE RECYCLE.

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

EMERALD SOON IN BERKELEY



515 Cragmont Avenue, Berkeley ~ Offered at \$925,000

Possessing all the warmth and quality not found in newer construction, this pretty, updated 3+BR/2.5BA home has beautiful architectural details, a spacious beamed ceiling living room, a sunny eat-in kitchen with adjacent playroom/office which opens onto a patio, an inviting master suite with a charming dressing room, and a level back yard. All that plus a peek of the Bay. In short, just the home that many have been waiting for!

Callie Avant

510.338.1341

www.pacunion.com

1421 Norvell Street, El Cerrito



www.1421Norvell.com

Open House Sunday, October 2nd, 2-4:30
Offers Wednesday, October 5th

Beautiful Charming and Well-Maintained Bungalow. Freshly Painted Inside & Out, 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom, New Linoleum in Kitchen & Bathroom, New Stove, Refinished Hardwood Floors Throughout, Fireplace in Living Room, Shade-Filled Backyard with Fruit & Other Trees. CLEAR MITTS SECTION 1 PEST REPORT. Minutes from Castro Park for Recreation & Picnics.



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RE/MAX® EXECUTIVE

Open Sunday 2:00-4:30



753 Santa Barbara, Berkeley

Located on one of Berkeley's most desirable streets, this stately, private home is surrounded by an oversized mature garden with a lot backyard. The Tudor Revival-style residence has 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, a library, an office with a separate entrance, and a charming playroom. The elegant living room with beamed ceiling and fireplace looks to the Bay. The formal dining room with built-in china cabinet opens to an updated kitchen. This large home is perfect for easy living and working at home. It has it all!

\$1,680,000



Maya Trilling

510-524-9888 x18

Visit a tour of this home at www.berkhills.com

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VALVA REALTY PRESENTS

Open Sunday! October 2nd from 2:00pm to 4:30pm



Gorgeous Craftsman

916 East 21st Street, Oakland

Beautifully remodeled with new kitchen and bath, hardwood floors, gas f/p, newly rebuilt garage, 3 bdrms, 2 ba plus room for 4th bdrm or office. Outstanding home in move-in condition in historical San Antonio Park neighborhood.

Call Michael Valva, Broker (510) 451-7317

678 14th Street, Oakland, California 94612

Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed

Gallagher
& Lindsey
REALTORS®



5674 Colton Blvd. - \$870,000
Oakland

Spacious 3 bedroom/2 bath home just steps from Montclair Village. Saltillo tiles in entrance, living room and kitchen. Formal living room has fireplace and built-ins. Lower level consists of a separate 1 bedroom, 1 bath. With its own entrance, it's perfect for your in-laws or au pair.

Lori Shea
REALTOR®

510-205-5674

loris@gallagherandlindsey.com

Classic Two-Story Brown Shingle

This spacious 4++ BD, 2 BA home is just waiting for restoration with fantastic potential to be a beautiful, gracious home. Located in sought-after Rockridge, near shops, restaurants and just minutes from BART. Make this one your own!



6101 Hillegass Ave
OAKLAND

Open Sunday
October 2nd
2-4pm

Offered at \$749,000

www.thornwallproperties.com

Heien Walker &
Kathryn Stein
Thornwall Properties, Inc.
510-848-1950



3 New Listings

FOR LEASE

#328-ALBANY COMMERCIAL-Just renovated 5,000 sq. ft. building w/office-ideal for automotive services w/great terms. 5 Yrs. w/options. For more information call



5733 FRESNO AVE., RICHMOND
#247-Charming 2 bdrm ranch style home in desirable Annex location. Features spacious living room w/fireplace, formal dining & glistening old time oak plank floors. Sunny kitchen w/lots of cabinets, separate laundry, double detached garage

\$545,000

3646 PARK RIDGE DR., RICHMOND

A star in the CCV!

#311-Make this best convenient located country club vista house your home to be proud of. Spacious floor plan, extra huge 5 bdrms 3 BA, high ceiling, 2732 sq. ft. lot.

\$979,000

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THORNWALL PROPERTIES INC.



► \$749,000

Real Potential in Actual Rockridge
Classic two-story brown shingle ready for a new look.
4++ bed, 2 bath. One block to College Ave shops.

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THORNWALL

Are You And Your Home Ready For An Earthquake?

Prudential California Realty
Berkeley Regional Office
Invites you to

An
Earthquake Preparedness Presentation
With

Howard Cook, Bay Area Retrofit
And a member of City of Berkeley Earthquake Preparedness Committee

Anthony Demascole, Structural Engineer

An Earthquake Insurance expert

Keith Knudson, Northern California Geologist

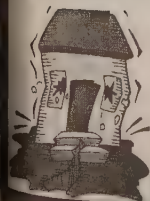
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Information on how to put together the supplies you need for 3-4 days without utilities

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7-9PM

PRUDENTIAL CALIFORNIA REALTY
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BERKELEY

R.S.V.P. By Monday, Oct 3rd-Seating is limited
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California mediterranean with flexible floor plan. Open kitchen, charm galore, lovely garden, detached garage.

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MARY CANAVAN
510.848.1950 x212

THORNWALL
Properties

Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

BY BOBBIE REID
CORRESPONDENT

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries

FOR THE PUBLIC

Preparedness

The recent weather events of hurricanes, earthquakes and tidal waves bring to mind how vulnerable we all are. What really hits home is that we are the real first responders. Are you prepared? Are your home and family protected? Here are some sites to visit for information on what to do, what to stock and how to make a plan before disaster strikes. Check out ready.gov, fema.gov and redcross.org. Locally the worry is earthquakes. Download a handbook with quake survival information at lafd.org/eqindex. There is a free contact system for locating family at the Next of Kin Registry at nokr.org. Prepare.org is especially for the elderly and special needs. The site offers information in large print. The best advice is don't be afraid, don't wait and be ready.

MCC

Mortgage Credit Certificate Holders. MCC Holders are now able to refinance and keep their MCC. They also may be able to remove PMI payments. Refinancing may not be everyone. An agent can answer questions and concerns at 800-799-3377.

Investors

Bay Area Investors Educational Services of Oakland offers a monthly program on the benefits of and strategies for investing in real estate. The two-part program "Investing in Real Estate Before And After The

Hurricanes" is 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 4. Call for ticket and location information at 510-339-9014.

Free Classes

First-timers. Learn how much home you can afford and why you need a Realtor, at "Buying Your First Home," The free seminar is 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 1 at the Homewood Suites in Oakland. Make a reservation by calling 510-865-4192 ext. 300.

Sellers. Home sellers can learn to get top dollar at the "Home Selling Strategies Workshop." This free

session is 7 to 9 p.m., Oct. 11, at The Selling Center, 10000 Shattuck Blvd., Suite 100, Oakland. Call for more information at 510-339-9014.

See REID p. B6

Kelly Deal



6453 Pinehaven Rd., Oakland
Coming Soon! This 4bd, 2.5 ba charming cottage style home is totally renovated and remodeled. New construction with quality throughout. Close to Montclair village. Functional floor plan.

Offered at \$875,000



Kelly Deal

Office 899.8000 Ext. 311
Cell 510.484.4300
www.apr.com

Specializing in Oakland & Berkeley Hills & Piedmont
Please Call For a Confidential Interview

apr.com / Montclair Village/6116 La Salle Ave., 2nd Floor / 510.899.8000

open sunday



6815 Oakwood Drive, Montclair

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. An inviting level-in contemporary with a wonderful open floor plan, fabulous eat-in kitchen and private office. Located on a quiet Montclair street, this four bedroom, two and one half bath home is just minutes to Thornhill Elementary School, Montclair Village, and public transportation.

Offered at \$825,000



5766 Harbord Drive, Oakland

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Enjoy the San Francisco views from this four bedroom, three bath home in the desirable Piedmont Montclair. This spacious property features a suite with private solarium, large lovely rear patio and gardens.

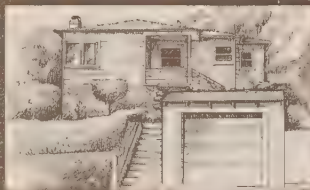
Offered at \$925,000

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REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

DANA COHEN

Office: 510.339.0400/348
dcohen@grubbco.com

Kelly Deal



2469 Truman Ave., Oakland Ca
Coming Soon! Sunny and cozy 2bd/1ba bungalow. Updated kitchen and bath. Deep backyard with landscaped garden and potential for expansion. Close to transportation.

Offered at \$439,000



Kelly Deal

Office 899.8000 Ext. 311
Cell 510.484.4300
www.apr.com

Specializing in Oakland & Berkeley Hills & Piedmont
Please Call For a Confidential Interview

apr.com / Montclair Village/6116 La Salle Ave., 2nd Floor / 510.899.8000

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A wonderful traditional Piedmont home with five bedrooms, three and one half baths. Stunning formal living and dining rooms plus den, rumpus room and au-pair suite. The patio is great for outdoor entertaining with South Bay views.

Offered at \$2,600,000

191 Sandringham Road
Piedmont

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

MICHELLE WINCHESTER

Office: 510.339.0400/203
winchester@grubbco.com



HERITAGE REAL ESTATE FINE HOMES & ESTATES HeritageRealEstate.com



Oakland
\$2,395,000

4+BR/3BA. Retreat to this secluded 2+ acre gated home w/ panoramic views of SF, Golden Gate, Bay Bridge, Mt. Tam & beyond. Gorgeous rooms include: formal dining, family rm, library, enormous master suite, pool, spa & sauna.

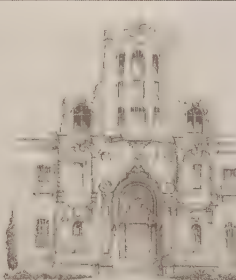
Heleen Nicholas (510)339-8900



Oakland
\$1,975,000

4BR/3BA + 2BR/2BA Au Pair. This stunning Victorian remodel has a fabulous master suite. Features incl. a custom kit, high ceilings, hardwood floors, garden w/ spa & priking.

1729 San Antonio Ave.
Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30PM
Andrea Gordon (510)339-8900



Oakland-Lake Merritt

\$735,000

Open

Just listed! Stylish 2BR/2BA condo with panoramic views from every room. Period details have been enhanced with quality upgrades to the kitchen and baths. This landmark Art Deco building offers 24 hour doorman and valet services.

492 Staten Ave #601

Open Sun 2-4:30

Tom Erwin

510-339-8900



San Francisco/ Telegraph Hill
\$1,699,000

Prime location! 6-unit: 3-2 bedrooms, 3-1 bedrooms. 1 car garage. Laundry Storage. Views from top two floors. Perfect for owner user. 1 vacant unit + parking. 1 block walk to North Beach shops & coffee!

Shown By Appt.
Andrea Gordon (510)339-8900



Montclair
\$899,000

5BR/4BA. Terrific refurbished contemporary home w/ fabulous canyon views, vaulted ceilings, updated kit, & baths & separate office beneath gar. Lower level is 2BR w/ wet bar.

7260 Homewood Dr.
Open Sun 2-4:30PM
Andrea Gordon (510)339-8900



Hillier Highlands
\$839,000

3BR/3BA. Glorious SF & Golden Gate Bridge Views. Bright & light end unit w/ automated skylights. Open floor plan. Great for entertaining. 2 MBR suites. One of Hillier's Best street. New Listing.

35 Schooner Hill
Open Sun 2-4:30PM
Gayle Tantau (510)339-8900



Redwood Heights
\$769,000

2+BR/2BA. Stylish mid-century classic. Clean modern lines. Walls of windows frame bay views. Bright, spacious LR w/ fireplace. Second floor in den (could be 3rd BR). Sunny private garden.

3306 Herrier St.
Open Sun 2-4:30
Vicky Friedman (510)339-8900



Berkeley
\$649,000

3BR/1BA. Rejuvenated Mediterranean! A joy to visit. Large BRs, FDR w/ leaded glass windows, airy, LR & fireplace. Classic kit., detached studio. All in the Solano Ave. District.

1573 Thousand Oaks
Open Sun 2-4:00
Miriam Wilson (510)339-8900



El Cerrito
\$509,950

2BR/1BA. Mr. Clean lived here. Traditional bungalow in central El Cerrito near both BART & Freeway. Freshly painted in/out. Hardw. flrs. Detached gar. Good size bkdy.

1332 Richmond St.
Open Sun 2-4:30
Nick Lavrov (510)339-8900



Oakland
\$489,000

3BR/2BA. "Great Room" style kit w/ area for dining & relaxing! Open, airy vaulted ceilings. Level covered patio w/ access to large, priv fenced yard.

Heleen Nicholas, CRS
(510)339-8900



Hillier Highlands
\$975,000

3BR/2 BA. Elevated hillside home w/ panoramic bay views. Beautiful hardwood flrs, chef's kitchen & LR built-ins. Beautiful garden.

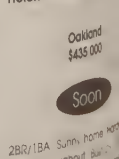
45 Starview Dr.
Open Sun 2-4:30PM
Gayle Tantau (510)339-8900



Montclair
\$739,000

2BR/1.5BA. Just listed! Bright mid-century home w/ custom tiled kit. Enter through a covered garden to a grassy area with a meadow in back. Beautiful view of city & bay. Detached studio.

5870 Moraga Ave
Open Sun 2-4:30
Heleen Nicholas (510)339-8900



Oakland
\$435,000

2BR/1BA. Sunny home with hardwood floors throughout. Beautiful details. Close to Lake Merritt & freeways.

Coming Soon
Cindy Rose
(510)339-8900

Reid

FROM PAGE B6

workshop" educates women on homebuying addressed in "woman speak." For dates call 510-718-354.

ALL REALTORS

The Alameda, Berkeley and Oakland Associations of Realtors present Palm Tree 650. Enjoy lunch and learn how the Palm can improve business. Learn the latest, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., today, at the OAR Auditorium. Demo units will afford hands-on experience. Sponsored by First American Title Company. Make a reservation with Tabia Berry by calling 510-527-9658 ext. 109.

BEACH BLANKET

Stop and have some fun right in the middle of the NAR convention. The Northern California CRS Chapter is hosting a "Night Out On The Town" at "Beach Blanket Babylon," San Francisco music revue. This musical spoof of pop culture with colorful costumes and larger than life characters is a must see event. The laugh filled evening is 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 27. Proceeds benefit Habitat For Humanity. Reservation information can be found at www.nocalcrs.com.

TOP SECRET

The Bay East Association of Realtors Affiliate Committee offers new agents a special opportunity. A seminar, "Secrets of Top Production," is planned for Wednesday, Oct. 27, at the University of Phoenix, in Westmont. Learn new prospecting techniques and more. This is for agents less than two years or less. www.bayeast.org to register.

LUNCH BUNCH

Share the Knowledge. Free monthly lunch and learn sessions are a tradition at the Berkeley Association of Realtors. Attend at the OAR Auditorium, noon to 1 p.m., on Wednesday, Oct. 5. BAR presents "Team Building," another way to grow your business. Discover how to enhance your business by building a team. Learn how to partner and make your business more successful. This is a brown bag event. Beverages and dessert will be provided. To join the Lunch Bunch call the BAR office at 510-848-4288.

NAR members enjoy the benefits of the REALTOR VIP Program designed to help them gain the advantages of group buying power, plan for the future and expand their professional knowledge through its more than 50 publications and educational programs. The more than 40 strategic affiliate partners are leaders in their industries and committed to providing NAR members with special offerings tailored to their needs. Check out these offerings at www.realtor.org.

MEMBERS

The California Association of Realtors Member Advantage program offers members-only savings to California Realtors. Visit the member advantage page at CAR Online www.car.org/membersadvantage for more details.

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1638 HARVARD DR. **PENDING**
ALAMEDA, Approx. 2000sf, brand new roof, \$699,000

NEW LISTING
Open Sat. & Sun. 10/1-10/2 1-4pm
1511 RICHMOND ST.
EL CERRITO
3500+sf Close to BART & transportation. New central heating system. Extra large lot. \$575,000

SAN LORENZO
15950 VIA CONEJO
3500+sf. Charming home in the Villages. Large rear yard with beautiful trees. \$1,199,000
Asking Price: \$499,000

SAN LEANDRO
NEW LISTING!
Open Sat. & Sun. 10/1-10/2 1-4pm
13919 Seagate Drive
3500+sf. Eat in kitchen, vaulted ceilings, wet bar. Attached 2 car garage. Adjacent to Ocean Bay Golf Course. Close to restaurants, shopping, & San Leandro Marina. \$549,000

2919 GALLON PLACE
3300+sf. 5 B.A. At Marina Seaside. Beach Bay Golf Course, pool, tennis. Asking Price: \$510,000

172 OAKES BLVD.
3500+sf. Approx. 1700sf Craftsman-style home on an oversized lot. Asking Price: \$619,000

14300 Outrigger Dr., San Leandro • SOLD
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TIDBITS

■ After watching current events, Ira and Carol Serkes of RE/Max Executive in Berkeley decided to be pro-active and help their clients prepare for disasters. They will present podcasts on how to prepare. You can link to the podcasts at www.berkeleyhomes.com.

■ John Abbott is the new manager of the Prudential California Realty Alameda office. Abbott joined the company in 2002 and is a top producer. Stop by the Central Avenue location to say congrats.

TELL ME

Tell me about it! Fundraisers, meetings, workshops, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). Information deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an e-mail to bobbireid@mind-spring.com.

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Located on the upscale east side of Tracy, just steps from a fully equipped park, Rosewood Estates gives your family room to grow. From the \$700,000's. (209) 834-1031



Rosewood Estates

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And then some.



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It's just one click to a complete list of virtually all homes for sale in the Bay Area.

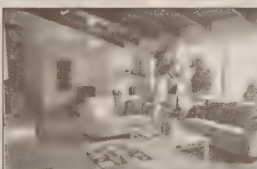


RITA DHILLON 925.314.1111



WALNUT CREEK 3712 Northgate Way C. \$1,858,000
ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS. 4800+/-sf home on 0.92+/- acres with fabulous views. Features high vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, huge gourmet kitchen, 5bd/4.5ba, office, entertainer's rear yard and more. **OPEN SUN 1:00-4:00**

DEBORAH RINEY 510.899.8000



OAKLAND 32 Cathy Lane \$1,500,000
3 COUNTY BAYVIEW. 4+bd/3.5ba single level home with large guest unit on 2.35+/-ac. Enjoy panoramic bay and hill views in a private setting with level outdoor areas perfect for entertaining. **OPEN SUN 2:00-4:30**

CAROLYN DEVOL 610.899.8000



OAKLAND 5323 Estates Drive \$1,495,000
OLD WORLD CHARM. Upper Rockridge, designed by Miller-Warneck, park-like grounds, architectural details, 3-car garage, 3bd/2.5ba, studio apartment. Very special. Just listed. **OPEN SUN 2:00-5:00**

FELICIE TSURUDA 925.314.1111



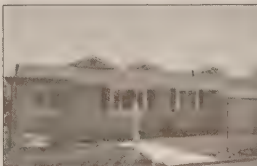
WALNUT CREEK 751 Woodwind Pl. \$1,419,000
RANCHO PARAISO. Great traditional home in wonderful neighborhood. 4bd/3ba, 3000+/-sf of good proportions and floor plan. Very large lot with over 16,000+/-sf backing to hill views and partial open space. **OPEN SUN 1:00-4:00**

BILL & BILLY FINNEGAN 925.258.1111



LAFAYETTE 1226 Sunrise Ridge Dr. \$1,395,000
NEWLY LISTED. Entertainer's delight in Reliez Valley Highlands. 4bd/3ba, bonus room, large yard with flagstone patio and flat lawn area with possible pool site. Gorgeous views of Briones State Park. **OPEN SUN 1:00-4:00**

ALAN MARKS 925.258.1111



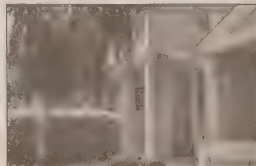
LAFAYETTE \$1,095,000
BEAUTIFULLY REMODELED HOME. Charming 4bd/2ba home with a granite kitchen, dual pane windows, a wood burning fireplace, a spacious master with sitting area and a large yard. **BY APPOINTMENT**

CHERYL LAWSON 925.934.1111



MARTINEZ \$579,000
COMING SOON. Fantastic views from this large completely remodeled 3bd/2.5ba townhome. New flooring throughout, wood, tile, carpet. Beautiful landscaped yard, private location. Located in a cul-de-sac. **BY APPOINTMENT**

MONIQUE YOUNG 925.934.1111



WALNUT CREEK \$509,950
LOCATION, LOCATION. This spacious and beautifully updated 2bd/2ba condo is ideally situated close to trails, the park, shops and BART. Decorator lighting, newer flooring, paint and appliances. **BY APPOINTMENT**

ANTIOCH

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
4701 GOLDEN BEAR \$949,000
Beautiful 4br home, 4bd/2ba, vaulted ceilings, spacious LR and DR, fabulous master suite, 3bd/2.5ba, private backyard patio and spa. **BILL & BILLY FINNEGAN 925.314.1111**

GREAT HOME \$539,950
Two-story 3bd/2.5ba plus loft and FR. Close to schools, shopping and freeway access. Loft 3bd/2.5ba. View of Mt Diablo. 4th fairway. Great location. Current owners 3bd/2ba. **EDUARDO ALAS 925.314.1111**

BERKELEY

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
2328 LE CONTE AVENUE \$720,000
Very desirable North Berkeley home was built in the 1920's and has been lovingly cared for and updated in the current owners 3bd/2ba. **BILL & BILLY FINNEGAN 925.314.1111**

BARTWOOD

SUPERB LOCATION \$985,000
Spectacular view house in Summerset, 2685+/-sf. 3bd/2.5ba. View of Mt Diablo. 4th fairway. Great location. Current owners 3bd/2ba. **DARREL BIRN 925.314.1111**

CONCORD

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
585 MADIGAN AVENUE \$635,000
Large 4 bedroom home, great neighborhood, new paint, flooring, 2 cars, near Walnut Creek and 92nd St. R plus 2 car garage. **CATHERINE MYERS 925.934.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
2540 RYAN ROAD \$979,000
Walnut Creek Border. Priced to sell. 4bd/2ba hardwood floors, updated bathrooms, RV grade laundry, bright, bright unit. Close to all. **LISA VALECH 925.934.1111**

COMING SOON \$359,950
Great location, spacious floor plan, 2bd/2ba, inside laundry, bright, bright unit. Close to all. **MILLIE MESSINA 925.934.1111**

LAFAYETTE

BRAND NEW HOME \$1,925,000
Lafayette new construction, 4bd/3.5ba, den and bonus room. Newly built by R&J Construction. Lafayette schools in a prime setting. **BILL & BILLY FINNEGAN 925.258.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
3183 OLD TUNNEL ROAD \$949,000
Spacious 3bd/2ba. Large flat lot. Pool, deck, dual pane windows, a wood burning fireplace, a spacious master with sitting area and a large yard. **BILL & BILLY FINNEGAN 925.258.1111**

MARTINEZ

BREATHTAKING WATER VIEWS \$1,295,880
Contemporary 3600+/-sf home in Martinez. Located in a very quiet neighborhood. Near golf trails and downtown. 1800+/-sf of decks. **RON MARIA 925.934.1111**

OAKLAND

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
6829 ELVERTON \$1,399,000
Just listed. Desirable Upper Rockridge. Updated 3bd/2ba. 5+/- acre. Great access to deck and beautiful yard. Designer colors. **BILL & BILLY FINNEGAN 925.258.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-5:00
5476 PROCTOR AVENUE \$949,000
Just listed. Desirable Upper Rockridge. Updated 3bd/2ba. 5+/- acre. Great access to deck and beautiful yard. Designer colors. **BILL & BILLY FINNEGAN 925.258.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30
4912 LAWTON AVENUE \$725,000
Rare find. Renovated 4 bedroom, 2 bath home near Rockridge Boro. Only a few blocks to College Avenue and BART station. **S. ARBALLO/J. MONTAGUE 510.899.8000**

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30
6544 ALLENDALE AVENUE \$549,000
Beautiful Spanish-Mediterranean in Maxwell Park. Split-level floor plan with graceful arched windows, hardwood floors, FR, yard. **MARIA SINCLAIR 510.899.8000**

ORINDA

ORINDA DOWNS \$2,500,000
Nestled 5000+/-sf home in Orinda Downs. Beautifully designed with a renovated gourmet kitchen, luxurious master bath. Great views. **LORI LEGLER 925.258.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
234 EL TOYONAL \$799,950
1530+/-sf home on 0.67+/- acre with views, 2bd/2ba, spacious LR with FR and cathedral wood ceiling, DR with FR. Quiet/private. **MARCIA DAVIS 925.314.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
39 MUTH DRIVE \$789,000
Charming fixer in close-in Orinda location offers privacy and abundant opportunity. 3bd/2ba home sits on 0.52+/-ac lot with deck. **BILL & BILLY FINNEGAN 925.258.1111**

PLEASANT HILL \$2,495,000
356 GOLF CLUB ROAD \$949,900
Wonderful contemporary home has open kitchen/FR, access to covered patio/pool area, is great for entertaining inside or out. 3bd/2ba. **PAUL KNAUFF 925.934.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
43 KATHRYN DRIVE \$899,000
Completely updated 3bd/1ba. Hardwood floors, new Berber carpet. Large storybook rear yard with lawn, patio, deck and mature landscape. **CATHERINE MYERS 925.934.1111**

WALNUT CREEK

MAGNIFICENT ESTATE OR SUB-DIVISION \$2,495,000
Original estate of 2+/- acres. 1980 farm house, 2 cottages, 2 garages and pool. Zoned R10 for possible sub-division, gated flat grounds. **D. MADSEN & D. PARKER 925.314.1111**

HORSE LOVER'S DREAM \$2,495,000
Smashing English country equestrian estate built in 2002 with gorgeous views on 2.5+/-ac. 4bd/4.5ba plus office, luxury horse facilities. **RITA DHILLON 925.314.1111**

WALNUT CREEK

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
20 RODRIGUES LANE \$1,899,000
Brand new 4+bd/5ba modern Craftsman. 3600+/-sf on Lafayette border with soaring ceilings, walls of glass. Gourmet kitchen. **CATHERINE MYERS 925.934.1111**

COMING SOON \$1,499,000
Views abound, 3200+/-sf. Custom home on 1.69+/- acres. 4bd/3ba plus office and 3-car garage, wrap around decks, cathedral ceilings. **ANDREA SCOTT 925.314.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
1267 CROWN COURT \$1,160,000
Special Financing. Remodeled kitchen and master bath. Perfect entertaining backyard. New roof, exterior paint, hardwood floors. **KAREN HULTMAN 925.934.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 1:30-4:30
942 TERA COURT CREEK \$1,039,900
3 bedrooms plus a den, spectacular new kitchen, dual-pane windows, sparkling solar pool and spa with a water fountain and fall. **EU & ROB SIMPSON 925.314.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
943 MEANDER DRIVE \$935,000
Traditional 4bd/2ba. Updated and open. Remodeled kitchen. Replaced windows, roof, gutters, heat/air. Hardwoods, updated baths. **MARGARET GAMBER-TEETER 925.934.1111**

SENSATIONAL 3BD/2BA REMODELED HOME \$929,000
3bd/2ba with soaring ceilings, hardwoods and home office. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac on 0.36+/- acres of lush lawns and gardens. **KELLY JOUDON 925.258.1111**

OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00
3173 WAYSIDE PLAZA #306 \$459,000
New penthouse listing in Centerra Place. 2bd/2ba, cathedral ceilings, washer and dryer in the unit. Desirable complex with pool/spa. **LORI LEGLER 925.258.1111**

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WALNUT CREEK 925.934.1111 ORINDA 925.258.1111 MONTCLAIR VILLAGE 510.899.8000

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Recently Sold in Piedmont

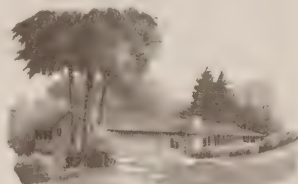


110 Monte Avenue

Exquisite Greek Revival Estate with spectacular architectural details.

Originally offered at \$3,700,000

Represented the Seller



5 LaSalle Avenue

A wonderful Piedmont opportunity

Originally offered at \$699,000

Represented the Seller
25 offers presented

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ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY, CRS
BROKER ASSOCIATE
Office: 510.339.0400/217
tunney@grubbco.com



Both Open This Sunday!



Unique North Berkeley Home

There are 3BD/2BA, nicely landscaped grounds & a seemingly endless backyard. Convenient to N. Berkeley BART. See more at Northbrae.com!

Northbrae Properties

526-4336

Lovely Montclair Retreat

This lovely Montclair home offers a delightful sense of seclusion while still being convenient to the Village. 2BD/2BA, new kitchen, wonderful porch & patio, wooded grounds & 2 car attached garage!



WWW.NORTHBRAE.COM

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*5.674% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$359,650 loan amount + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. 10/1 adjustable rate mortgage is fixed for the first 10 years and then adjusted to market rate every year thereafter. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$359,650 is approximately \$2,014 subjected to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Homeowners insurance required.
**5.315% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$359,650 loan amount + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 15 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount is approximately \$2,868. Homeowners insurance required.
***5.858% estimated loan percentage rate is based on \$500,000 + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment is \$2,818. Homeowners insurance is required.
Above programs are based on primary, single family residences, townhouses, and condominiums only. No prepayment penalty required. Cash out allowed up to 75% loan-to-value. Other restrictions may apply. All credit applications are subject to credit qualifications and underwriting requirements. Rates as of 9/27/05 are subject to change without notice.

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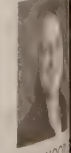
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BERKELEY **\$1,795,000**
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69 Parnassus Road Open 2-4



BERKELEY **\$1,150,000**
4+2.5 - Beautiful Walter Ratcliff architecture built in 1909 with lovely details over 3,000 sq. ft. in convenient Elmwood location.
2929 Benvenue Avenue Open 2-4:30



BERKELEY - NEW! **\$1,195,000**
3/2 - Quintessential Hills home with panoramic SF, GG & BB views, master suite plus a legal 1/1 apartment with full kitchen & entry.
1106 Grizzly Peak Boulevard Open 1-5



BERKELEY - NEW! **\$749,000**
3/2 - Living room with fireplace, formal dining room, updated kitchen, hardwood floors, filtered views, 2-car garage on end of cul-de-sac.
8 W. Parnassus Court Open 2-4



BERKELEY - NEW! **\$589,000**
2/1 - Lovely home with detached in-law unit with built-ins, formal dining room, fireplace, hardwood, full basement, garden & more.
2211 Browning Street Open 1-4



ALBANY - NEW! **\$699,000**
3/2 - Classic Craftsman with cottage, both beautifully renovated. Updated kitchens, bath & private gardens close to Solano Avenue, more.
1108 Kains Avenue Open 1:30-4



ALBANY **\$699,000**
2/1 - Lovely cottage with hardwood floors, fireplace, updated kitchen, built-in cabinets, garden with gazebo.
1501 Visalia Avenue Open 2-4



EL CERRITO - NEW! **\$375,000**
2/2 - This cute condo is all dressed up & ready to go with fresh paint, new carpet & an open floor plan. Perfect for the entry level buyer.
1725 Liberty Street # 2 Open 2-4

EL CERRITO - NEW! **\$799,000**
HOME+INCOME - Clean 2/1 with updated kitchen & lower 1 bedroom unit + rear duplex. Great locale near U.C. Plaza & Pacific East Mall.
3021-27 Yolo Avenue Open 1-4

EMERYVILLE **\$409,900**
1/1 - Brand new luxury condo at Andante. End unit with City views! Near Bay Street, transportation and more.
1121 40th Street #4308 Open 1:30-4

OAKLAND **\$499,000**
3/1 - Maxwell Park charmer with gleaming hardwood floors, large backyard, hill views, 2-car garage and room for expansion.
4501 Camden Street Open 2-5

OAKLAND **\$599,500**
2+1 - Enchanting & warm in Dimond Heights. Turn-of-century details with modern flair. Adorable 4-room garden cottage with kitchen & bath.
3730 Laguna Avenue Open 1:30-4:30



OAKLAND - NEW! **\$579,000**
3/1.5 - Located on a great street in Maxwell Park. This is a must see... spacious and beautiful, inside and out!
4814 Allendale Avenue Open 1:30-4



OAKLAND - NEW! **\$790,000**
3/2 - Or a 2/1 with 1 bedroom unit. Italian farmhouse surrounded by private gardens. Craftsman details, vaulted ceilings, more.
428 Avon Street Open 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW! **\$425,000**
2/1 - Beautiful Craftsman bungalow is the perfect starter home. Ideally located on the outskirts of Glenview. Charming & affordable!
3427 Adell Court Open 2-4



ALAMEDA - NEW! **\$575,000**
2/2 - Charming, spacious & sunny on a cul-de-sac. Remodeled bathrooms, hardwood floors, full basement, new back deck & large backyard.
1835 Nason Street Open 2-4

PITTSBURG - NEW! **\$449,500**
2/2 - New interior and exterior paint. Granite counters. Central air/heat.
3781 Crestview Drive Open 1-4

See red.

SOLD

[october 2nd]

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Enchanting Home & Garden Cottage!



3730 LAGUNA AVENUE, OAKLAND

Ultra-charming and warm 2+ bedroom, 1 bath turn-of-the-century remodeled jewel, PLUS an adorable four-room garden cottage with many possible uses. An urban oasis of fruit trees, flowers, peace, and serenity.

LISTED AT \$599,500

OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2ND 1:30-4:30PM

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A Beautiful Walter Ratcliff



2929 BENVENUE AVENUE, BERKELEY

Heart of Elmwood location! Built in 1909 with lovely details, this sunny, spacious home is over 3,000 sq.ft., 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, plus a 3rd floor retreat, fabulous eclectic front garden, and much more!

LISTED AT \$1,150,000

OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2ND 2-4:30PM

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Hidden Gem in Albany!



1108 KAINS AVENUE, ALBANY

CLASSIC CRAFTSMAN WITH COTTAGE, both beautifully renovated, each with private fenced gardens. This open and light-filled home has a spacious living room with fireplace and dining area, three bedrooms, updated eat-in kitchen and baths and provides ample space for comfortable living and entertaining. The master suite is upstairs and private. The cottage features a bedroom, living room and updated kitchen & bath. Close to transportation, schools and Solano Avenue shops and restaurants.

LISTED AT \$699,000

OPEN SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 2ND & 9TH 1:30-4PM

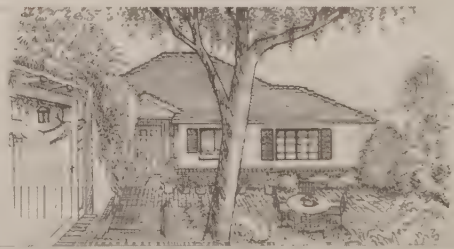
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LISTED AT \$1,195,000

OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2ND 1-5PM

Robin Kingsbury, Realtor®

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Painting your home's exterior? Follow this basic guide

BY NICK HARDER
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Spring is the best time of year to paint the exterior of your home. It's not too hot, not too cold and there is little threat of rain.

Whether you do the whole job yourself, do just small touch-ups or have your home's exterior painted by professionals, it helps to understand the tools and steps it takes to get it done.

Exterior painting can be broken into two phases: preparing the surface and then painting. Of the two, preparation can be more critical and time-consuming.

Along with the huge effort it takes to paint a large home, the arduous and dirty work of preparation is often what puts homeowners off the most from doing their own work. However, if a prep job is not done correctly, the paint you apply won't stick properly, won't last as long and won't protect your home's surface areas.

Because most home exterior painting is done over existing paint, let's tackle that approach. Before painting you need to deal with any loose paint, areas where the paint has worn through to the surface beneath, or surface cracks or dents. For this work you may need:

- At least one putty knife, preferably two, in different blade widths. You can use these to patch dents and cracks, and to reseat caulking around windows.

- A scraping tool. Make sure this has a handle with a length and style so that you won't scrape your knuckles.

- A wire brush with a sturdy handle.
- Sandpaper in varying degrees of coarseness.

- An electric hand sander (optional).

- Wood, masonry or stucco filler.

- Caulk and a caulking gun. Get a

high-quality gun. The cheap ones won't work well and will drive you crazy.

- Paint-stripping chemical (optional).

If you have a one-story house, you may only need a stepladder. But

stepladder safety depends on both sides of the ladder resting evenly. Often a home's surrounding landscape is not level. In that case — or if you have a two-story or taller home — you may need an extension ladder.

Use a ladder that is rated to support the weight you'll place on it. The amount of weight the ladder can safely hold is listed on its side.

For a really large job, you may want to consider using a paint

sprayer as well as rollers and brushes. Sprayers are used more for large areas, but they can also be used on trim

See PAINT, Page B11

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. An amazing three bedroom, two and one half bath home on a fabulous, huge lot. Expansive living room, formal dining room for entertaining, wonderful centrally located atrium opens to a sunny patio and garden retreat, music room and Bay views. Lots of potential. Easy accessibility to public transportation.

Offered at \$950,000

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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Charming light-filled Thousand Oaks three bedroom, two bath home with lovely remodeled kitchen, level-out fenced garden. Close to Solano Avenue & Kensington Circle shops & restaurants.

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3723 Crestmont Place
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www.carladellazoppa.com Open Sun 2-4:30 PM

WOW! WHAT A HOUSE!
756 Everett. 3BR 2BA w/Bay views, large newer roof & security system, possible in-law entrance, hardwood floors upstairs, tile downstairs, heater. #40111661
Michelle Manzone Open Sun 1-4 PM

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TERRIFIC DUPLEX
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www.carladellazoppa.com Open Sun 1-4 PM

GREAT OPPORTUNITY
2874 Tulare Ave. Lovely 2BR 1BA home w/ large family room, new exterior & interior paint, great opportunity buyer. #40113111.
Calvin Tran Open Sun 1-4 PM

AWESOME N&E HOME
Over 1700 sq. ft. on one level! 3 BR, 2 full BA, home master suite, huge family room w/floor to ceiling brick, spacious country kitchen. Backyard has large covered detached 2 car garage w/ workshop. #40110158
Gary Torretta

OPEN HOMES 10/2 2-4PM

6940 CHARING CROSS RD.
OAKLAND HILLS



3 Bedrooms / 3 Baths
Featured in Diablo Magazine for its exceptional architecture and design. Ann Sacks tile, walnut veneers, ebony stained floors, Italian porcelain tile, and the decking. German Stainless cabinetry, Viking range, too many things to mention, come see it to believe it!
OFFERED AT \$1,399,000

7087 PINEHAVEN RD.
MONTCLAIR, OAKLAND



3 Bedrooms / 2 Baths
Lovely peaceful, private wooded refuge. Recently remodeled, it has a new kitchen with granite counters, new flooring throughout, beautifully redone bathrooms. Retreat to the serene deck and enjoy a cup of coffee, or just a breath of fresh air.
OFFERED AT \$649,000

105 LIQUID SUGAR DR.
EMERYVILLE



2 Bedrooms / 2.5 Baths
Built in 2003 this spectacular townhouse features 2 master bedrooms, an open floor plan, maple floors, a chef's kitchen, very sunny southern exposure, two car tandem garage parking. Easy access to Emeryville amenities and direct bus to San Francisco.
OFFERED AT \$639,000

MAISONNOUVEAU

6 ADMIRAL DR.
EMERYVILLE



1 Bedroom / 1 Bath
Bright, peaceful condo in the heart of Emeryville. Facing the great bay and Oakland Bay Bridge, peeks through the trees to the bay. Amenities in the community include a boardwalk, swimming pool, tennis courts, clubhouse, and more.
OFFERED AT \$1,199,000

2701 COLLEGE AVE



510.849.8900



WILHELM USES a paint gun to paint the aluminum siding on a home.

MIKE CARDEW/ACRON BEACON JOURNAL

★ ★ NEW ROCKRIDGE LISTING! ★ ★
★ ★ Open House - Sunday, October 2nd 1-5pm ★ ★



4 Bedrooms & 2+ Bathrooms
5490 Kales Avenue
Offered @ \$1,050,000

Stunning 2-Story Remodeled Craftsman in the Heart of Rockridge
If you have been searching for a home that has retained all the wonderful architectural detailing of the Classic Bungalow, yet has updated spaces, then this is your chance to own that dream home. There is beautiful traditional and updated detailing throughout, like an incredible tile-fronted fireplace, a built-in wine rack, storage spaces. This sunny home features 4 bedrooms and 2+ bathrooms with an updated, yet traditional layout, including a great, spacious layout for entertaining. Sumptuous master suite with a recently remodeled en-suite bath and spectacular walk-in closet. Gleaming hardwood floors, a remodeled gourmet kitchen featuring a new Thermador stove and plenty of room for the cook and all the helpers, designer colors, formal living and dining rooms all make for a perfect home in Rockridge. The big back yard has a deck to sit right out from the kitchen and plenty of lawn for friends and family to romp and play. The big 'ol front porch is the perfect place to sit and watch the neighborhood pass by. There is plenty of storage for all your treasures in the detached outbuilding and partial basement. This home has been well maintained and upgraded/remodeled recently with many new and upgraded features and is in truly move-in condition.



Ron Kriss, Broker
510-547-5970 Ext 55 ronkriss@jps.net

ONLINE TOUR @ www.5490Kales.Com

Paint

FROM PAGE B10

Using a sprayer on either type of area usually calls for covering the other area while the sprayer is being used. That will require more time spent on covering the surfaces as well as money spent for the coverings themselves. You should consider these factors to determine whether it's worth your effort.

When it comes to paintbrushes, there are lots of choices in size, quality and shape. Some brushes are designed for particular areas or tasks, such as painting trim. Before you

buy, make a list of what types of painting you'll be doing. Take that with you when you buy brushes to make sure you get the right ones.

One question frequently asked is: "Why should I pay \$20 for one paintbrush when another that looks exactly like it goes for \$3?"

The answer is twofold: A top-quality paintbrush will do a better job, and it will make the job go easier and quicker, especially for an amateur painter.

Higher-priced brushes typically have a tapered end. There are shorter bristles on the outside, longer ones in the center. This tapering of bristles gives the painter more con-

trol of the brush and leaves fewer or no brush marks.

If you have ever used a cheap paintbrush, you know that it often will leave marks and even bristles as you paint. A top-quality brush will rarely do this.

Better brushes also hold more paint. You'll spend less time getting paint from the can to the surface.

Paintbrushes come with a variety of bristle types. Natural bristles frequently come from Chinese boars. Most fall into three categories: black, white and oxbow.

Use a brush with natural bristles

See PAINT, Page B12

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A bright, private & spacious home close to Montclair Village, schools & transportation. Open floor plan; hardwood floors; enclosed patio; decks and views; three bedrooms, two baths on main floor; au pair/in-law/office suite down; large family/entertainment room.

Offered at \$875,000



6047 Snake Road, Oakland

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sold sold



211 Crocker Avenue, Piedmont

This beautifully redesigned home has all the charm and character of an older property and all the modern amenities of new construction. From the luxurious master suite to the fabulous gourmet kitchen, to the inviting garden renovation, every detail has been meticulously thought after.

Originally offered at \$2,500,000



JULIE GARDNER
Represented the buyer
510.339.0400/264
jgardner@grubbco.com

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MINDY SCOTT
Represented the seller
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marvin
gardens

Open Homes



Berkeley \$949,000
Berkeley Hill Contemporary. Stylish, spacious & dramatic architect designed home with 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Wonderful vaulted ceilings & light. Beautiful wood details, great views, and privacy.

1119 Keith Open Sun 2-4
Wendy Bakkena & Juliana Wynberg 527-2700 x 33



El Cerrito \$849,000
Fantastic, large, view home on huge lot! Four bedrooms, 2 baths with sizeable family room, or could be 3 bedrooms, 1 bath with large 1 bedroom/1 bath in-law unit. Completely remodeled!

2341 Carquinez Ave. Open Sun 2-4
Pat Duffy 524-0800



El Sobrante \$698,000
BIG house on a HUGE lot that is fully landscaped. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, formal dining room, breakfast area, den, 1 bedroom & bath downstairs, laundry room, new roof, minor pest report. A love of a house!

17 Terriann Lane Open Sun 2-5
Bonnie Scott 231-1640



El Cerrito \$695,000
Beautiful remodeled 5BR, 2 bath Cape Cod. Gardener's paradise, chef's delight. Formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, fireplace, hardwood floors, updated baths. Peaceful, private country garden. Perfect for entertaining. Near BART, dining, shops, pool.

846 Norvell St. Open Sun 2-4
Lloyd Jung 527-9111



El Cerrito \$685,000
Bay views from well-maintained home in desirable Mira Vista. 3BRs, 2.5 baths, updated kitchen w/cherrywood cabinets, master suite, hardwood floors, solar & radiant heat. Big deck, workshop.

2305 Gloria St. Open Sun 2-4
Té Everson 527-9111



Albany \$650,000
Spacious Albany home. 3 large bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, plus 45'x20' extra room with endless possibilities. Hardwood floors. Near schools, shopping, transportation.

742 Jackson Open Sun 2-5
Richard Morrison 527-2700x32

El Cerrito \$525,000
Adorable two+ bedroom, one-bath home on a quiet street in a prime El Cerrito area. Fresh landscaping and paint.

440 Albemarle Ave. Open Sun 2-4
Jean Shrem & Marni Fischer 527-9111



Richmond Annex \$429,000
Adorable 2-bedroom, 1 bath cottage on desirable street in the Annex. Attached garage has 2 skylights for art studio. Landscaped garden, cheery atmosphere. SF view from rear bedroom.

1801 Mendocino St. Open Sun 2-4
Joan Underwood 527-9111

Albany \$445,000
Top floor unit w/Golden Gate & Bay views. Two-BR, 2 bath condo in move-in condition. Open, airy living room w/ fireplace, 2 spacious master suites w/updated baths, remodeled kitchen, laundry room, 2 parking spaces. Minutes to BART, shops, Plaza.

545 Pierce St. #1306 Open Sun 2-4:30
Nic Tang 527-9111

El Cerrito \$479,000
Charming mid-century bungalow with city view! Two bedrooms, one bath. New interior paint, refinished hardwood floors throughout. Great location!

815 Pomona Ave. Open Sun 2-5
Pat Duffy 524-0800

Oakland \$359,000
Wonderful condo in 2004-built buildings. One bedroom, one bath with lovely courtyard view. Kitchen & bath with upgrades. Ample storage/closet space. Close to City center, BART, and San Francisco.

655 12th St. #321 Open Sun 2-4
Diana Mendler 527-9111

For more information about these properties visit www.marvingardens.com

Paint

FROM PAGE B11

if you're painting with an oil or alkyd paint, stain, varnish, shellac or lacquer. However, if you use a latex paint, don't use a brush with natural bristles. Instead use synthetic brushes, which come in dyed nylon, dyed black nylon and dyed nylon/polyester. The nylon/polyester type is usually considered the best

because it has good stiffness and retention. Finally, many professional painters prefer brushes with wooden handles, saying they feel more comfortable in grip and balance. Other paint tools you'll likely need include:

- Drop cloths. These come in materials such as canvas or nylon. Canvas costs a bit more, but paint will dry faster on a canvas surface and won't puddle as it will on nylon.
- Rollers of different sizes. Get the

kind that has a handle with a threaded interior, which lets you screw it onto an extension pole to reach high areas.

For roller covers, have a variety of naps such as a 3/16-inch or 3/8-inch for painting smooth indoor surfaces, and 3/4-inch and 1-1/4-inch for rough surfaces. Again, go for quality and you will get smoother results, and the cover will hold more paint, reducing the amount of time you need to dip it back into the pan.

■ Paint roller pans. The better ones are of a more solid material — a heavier plastic or thicker metal — and are less likely to bend and spill.

■ Foam paint pads in different sizes to reach into corners and do edging. They tend not to drip or spatter, and speed up the trim work.

■ A painter's mitt for such things as pipes and railings. You dip the mitt in paint, then surround the pipe or railing and smooth the paint on it.

■ An extension pole for hard-to-reach

higher areas. These poles come in several lengths, so figure what length you'll need before purchasing. The shorter a pole, the easier it is to handle.

■ Masking tape. Use this to keep paint off adjacent surfaces, such as glass next to window frames. A wider tape makes slop-over less likely. Some of the professional painter-quality masking tape is easier to work with and remove.

Be sure to make a list of the exact items you'll need or a list of the types

of things you can leave home. Treat your salesperson at the paint home center as if you are the right tools.

Resources

One of the best sources of information on painting is the Rohn and Haas Paint Institute. Even the price

See PAINT, Page

The GRUBB Co.



86 Sea View Avenue, Piedmont
First Open - New Price \$7,450,000

ANGELA WEI GRUBB

510.339.0400/202

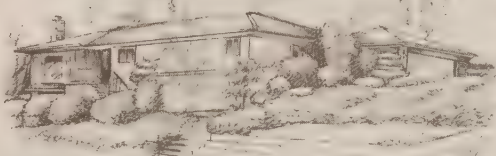
awgrubb@grubbco.com

Visit GRUBBCO.COM for

Photo Tours

of this and other current listings.

5394 Elaine Ct., Castro Valley Sunday, 2-4:30pm



This 4 BD, 3 BA California Rancher is graced with wide open spaces, formal living room, formal dining room, cooks kitchen with breakfast bar and eat-in area, family room and recreation room! Built to entertain, the home has access points throughout the 11,000-sq ft lot for ease of indoor/outdoor play. Yards adorned with lush greenery, huge covered & uncovered patios, mature trees and swimming pool!

Asking Price \$895,000

Visit my website at www.NahidNassiri.com

MONTCLAIR



Nahid Nassiri

"Your Best Move"

510.339.4550 direct

510.339.8400 office

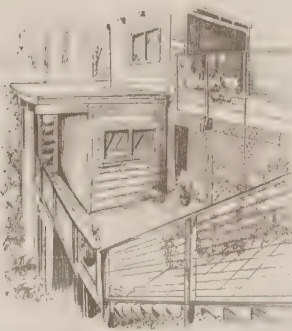
Open Sunday, October 9th from 2-4:30 pm Coming Soon — Top of the World!

6340 Melville Drive, Montclair

This charming custom built contemporary is located on a serene private lot with tantalizing canyon/tree views and a peek of the bay from the gracious living and dining room area and wrap around deck. A beautiful rock garden invites you to explore the outdoors. Excellent commute location to San Francisco, Berkeley, and Contra Costa. This one owner home offers 3 bedrooms including master suite, 2 baths, remodeled kitchen, fresh paint in and out, hardwood floors, high ceilings, 2-car carport. Walk to Redwood Regional park trails.

Offered at \$739,000

6676 Pine Needle Dr., Oakland Sunday, 2-4:30pm



Asking Price \$725,000

Visit my website at www.NahidNassiri.com

Private and serene canyon living awaits the buyer of this classic 4 BD, 3 BA Montclair contemporary. Modern, sophisticated, and completely restored, the home features an elegant post & beam design, updated kitchen, remodeled bathrooms, vaulted ceilings, walls of glass accenting wooded views, hardwood floors, designer paint, and many upgrades throughout! Minutes to the Montclair Village, Rockridge, and SF commute!

MONTCLAIR



Each office is independently owned and operated

510.339.8400

510.339.4000

Open Homes



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
OAKLAND \$1,295,000
5110 CROCKETT PLACE

Unobstructed SF/Golden Gate Views, feels like top of the world! Stunning Kitchen, master bedroom w/spa bath, fireplace, balcony & views. Don't miss! See photos at:

MaryJaneMcConville.com 339.8400~339.4280



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
CASTRO VALLEY HILLS \$895,000
5394 ELAINE COURT

This 4+BR/3ba California Rancher is graced with a terrific floor plan, formal living room, cooks kitchen, family room, formal dining room, and game rm! 11,000+ sq ft lot with gorgeous yards and pool!

Nahid Nassiri 339.8400~339.4550

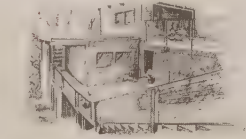


OPEN SUN 2-5 P.M.
PIEDMONT AVENUE \$849,000
1033 ROSE AVENUE

This Piedmont Ave Traditional features remodeled kitchen, updated baths, plank hardwood floors, family rm, potential in-law unit, and huge entertainer's yard. Walking distance to everything! Nahid Nassiri 339.8400~339.4550

OPEN SAT/SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
OAKLAND \$799,000
3081 GUIDO STREET

1st time on market in 47 years! Large mid-century 3/2 with peaceful hill views and expansion potential on oversized lot. Close to shops yet quiet location. Earle Shenk 339.4000~220.6407



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
MONTCLAIR \$725,000
6676 PINE NEEDLE DRIVE

4BR/3Ba Modern Montclair Contemporary with many upgrades throughout! Elegant post & beam design, walls of windows, & wooded views! Minutes to Montclair Village, Rockridge, & SF Commute. Nahid Nassiri 339.8400~339.4550

OPEN SUN 2-5 P.M.
GLENVIEW \$629,000
4042 CANON AVENUE

Country comfort, sunny, 3BR/1.5bath home on quiet street. Hardwood flrs, updated kitchen/bath. Level yard. Large garage. EZ SF commute. Arnold Mueller 339.4000

OPEN SUN 1-4 P.M.
SAN LEANDRO \$625,000
438 EAST MERLE COURT

Classic 3-bdrm 1926 Broadmoor Bungalow with original charm highlighted by designer colors plus numerous structural upgrades - the best of both worlds! Earle Shenk 339.4000~220.6407



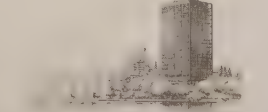
OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
REDWOOD HTS BORDER \$599,000
5134 DAISY STREET

Spotless, updated mid-century home with great light, new kitchen & bath and gleaming hardwood floors. See photos at: PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400~482.9000



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4 P.M.
FRUITVALE \$598,000
1703-37TH AVE

Two beautiful homes on one lot. Completely remodeled with permits featuring new plumbing/electrical systems, roof and foundation hardwood floors, wood cabinets and granite kitchen countertops. David Sykes 339.8400~301.3767



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
LAKE MERRITT \$595,000
565 BELLEVUE AV #1206

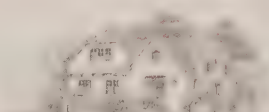
Spectacular views of Lake Merritt & the Oakland Hills. Updated kitchen & bathrooms. Amenities include on-site heated swimming pool, fitness center & club house. Gorgeous! Tom Watson 339.8400~899.6364



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
HAYWARD \$579,000
746 CITY WALK PLACE #2

Just Listed! Stunning townhome, gourmet kitchen, mastersuite, office and great location. Walk to BART, shopping, restaurants. Only 2 years young! See photos at: PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400~482.9000

By Appointment



OAKMORE \$799,000

Exquisite English circa 1932. Tastefully restored with wood windows, leaded glass, hardwood floors and stunning master suite. French doors to magical garden. PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400~482.9000

OAKLAND \$763,000

3660 CALAFIA AVENUE Traditional home in Oak Knoll neighborhood. 4 Bd/ 2.5 baths. Office/Au Pair with separate entry. HWFs, newer appliances, large yard with patio & play area. Ken Nwokedi 339.4000~485.5119

HERCULES \$469,000

502 ATHENA STREET #5 3BR/3Ba Townhouse. FP in living room. Lvg rm/Dining rm Combo w/ patio. Newer appliances. 2 car garage. 3 pools/Tennis courts. Ken Nwokedi 339.4000~485.5119

Coming Soon

HAYWARD Coming Soon! Tri-Level home over 1/2 acre. 4850 sq ft. end appliances, HWFs, and floor plan. Decks w/vaulted on every level! Ken Nwokedi 339.4000~485.5119

OAKLAND 1st time on market! Serene location. Lovely views. 3BA custom contemporary with Regional parks & public transportation. Hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen, fresh paint throughout! Martha Shin 339.8400~339.4550

Commercial

OFFICE SPACE FOR PERFECT FOR ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. Walking distance to Piedmont perfect professional office. Panoramic view of S.F. Bay location: 1425 Leimert Blvd. Mark Atasha

DOWNTOWN OAKLAND 2545-2555 BROADWAY 2 retail spaces for lease. Broadway 3480 sq ft, \$10/month. 2545 Broadway 7500 sq ft, \$8000/month. Excellent Broadway auto row location! Ken Nwokedi

OAKLAND 2533 BROADWAY STREET Excellent Broadway location! High walk/traffic. Retail space available for automotive use. Newer electrical and plumbing! Ken Nwokedi

BERKELEY 2380 TELEGRAPH AVENUE Retail space for sublease. heart of the retail shopping district. 2 bks from UC. 1,200 sq. ft. plenty of parking! Ken Nwokedi

Paint

FROM PAGE B12

the comprehensive Web site, which offers extensive advice on paint, materials, preparation and even choosing colors and calculating how much paint you need. Just click on www.paintquality.com.

Spraying paint

Paint sprayers can be a tremendous help, but matching the right one to the type of work you'll do is essential.

Paint sprayers are great for handling large areas or uneven surfaces. Sprayers range in price from under \$100 to more than \$1,500 and come in two types: airless and air-powered. Airless sprayers are powered by electricity. Air-powered sprayers require a compressor.

Airless sprayers are most often used by do-it-yourselfers. The parts of an electric airless sprayer include a container for the paint, a motor, high-pressure pump, pressure regulator, housing and handle.

There are a number of types of airless sprayers, but the ones you might consider best for house painting include the cup gun, piston pump and diaphragm pump.

A cup gun type is usually the most expensive, often priced around \$1,000. Another plus is that it can accommodate relatively thick latex paints and much thinner stains. This is the type of sprayer that is used most often by do-it-yourselfers.

Disadvantages include a relative lack of power compared with other types of airless sprayers and air-powered models.

A cup gun sprayer also may not be able to handle the thickest paints.

While the cup gun sprayer may not be best for large exterior paint jobs, it may be appropriate for smaller jobs. It holds a limited amount of paint because of the size of the cup. ■ The diaphragm pump is the next

step up. It uses a diaphragm expanding and contracting to bring in and force out the paint. It will handle fairly thick paints but sometimes tends to overspray because of its power. Good for large jobs. You can

buy a good one starting around \$250.

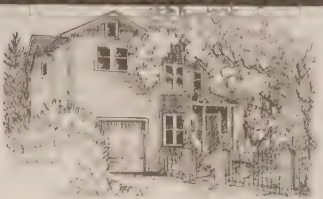
■ The piston pump variety is the most powerful and costs the most — sometimes \$1,000 or more — but should easily handle the thickest

paints. Again, as its name denotes, a piston forces out the paint.

Professionals use a sprayer gun powered by an air compressor. The

See PAINT, Page B14

THE TWO-BLOCKS-TO-THE-BEACH HOUSE



802 Oak Street, Alameda
Open Sat, Sun 2-4:30

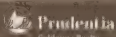
Nestled at the end of Oak, you'll find this charming two-story house. A newer traditional, by definition, it has light and space... as in 3 spacious bedrooms, two-story living room, 2 1/2 baths and even an office plus room. And, of course, just down the block, there's the... Beach!

Offered at \$639,000

"Top Producer, Berkeley Office"

www.Barbara_Reynolds.com • phone: 510.868.1487

BARBARA REYNOLDS



Open Sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Sunlight streams in through tall windows and a central skylight in this fabulous Upper Rockridge home. Impeccably crafted of the finest materials with elegant woodwork, three fireplaces, high ceilings and hardwood floors, this home is truly remarkable. An inviting floor plan includes four bedrooms, three and one half baths, family room, sun room and lower level office/play room. Garden patios provide easy access for outdoor entertaining. Southwest exposure and lovely Golden Gate views.



5801 Buena Vista
Upper Rockridge

Offered at \$1,729,000

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

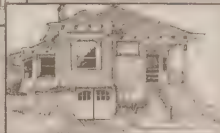
ELIZABETH DICKSON
Office: 510.339.0400/218
dickson@grubbco.com



Just Sold

Classic Contemporary

7420 Sea View Place, El Cerrito
Originally offered at \$645,000
I represented the Buyer



Charming Craftsman

McAuley Street, Oakland
Originally offered at \$765,000
I represented the Seller



Pending

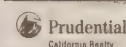
Elegant Berkeley Duplex
327-329 62nd Street, Oakland
Originally offered at \$949,000
I am representing the Seller

Roy Grigsby

415.710.3172 Cell

510.273.9756 Voicemail

Roy.Grigsby@Prurealty.com



6300 Monadnock Wy Oakland



\$399,500

Millsmont beautifully renovated charmer. New electrical, new copper plumbing, brand new kitchen with granite counter tops, appliances new, bathroom totally redone, refinished hardwood floors. Interior and exterior just painted, all work done with permits. Nice fenced rear yard too. Special home!

Open Sunday 10/2 2-4:30

For further information contact:
Amberson "Mac" McCulloch
Prudential CA Realty
Grand Lake Office
Office (510) 834-2010
Voice mail (510) 287-2579
www.mackmann.com
for pictures online



Prudential
California Realty

FEATURED HOMES



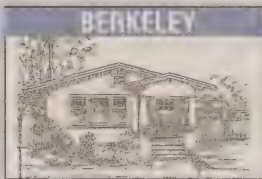
BERKELEY
Sunday 1-5
1109 Spruce, 30's Tudor w/4 BR/2 BA and original details.
Natalie Cuttler (510) 845-0211



PT. RICHMOND
Sunday 2-4
714 Golden Gate, 4 unit bldg, updates, hill & bay view.
Maria Einarli (510) 868-1400



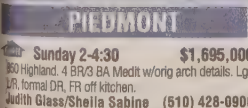
BERKELEY
Sunday 2-5
7501 Claremont Ave. Rare max privacy! 3 BR/2.5 BA, family rm, decks!
Diane Ohlsson (510) 868-1400



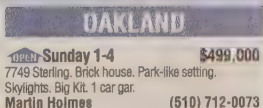
BERKELEY
Sunday 2-5
2316 7th St. Craftsman gem! All new 3 BR/2 BA, 6K sq.ft. lot. Fabulous!
Janesta Downey (510) 868-1563



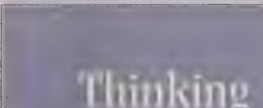
EL CERRITO
Sat 2-4 & Sun 1-4
6602 Stockton, 3 BR/2 BA, like new. A perfect 10! Close to El Cerrito Plaza.
Lillie Braudy (510) 868-1400



PIEDMONT
Sunday 2-4:30
160 Highland, 4 BR/3 BA Medit w/orig arch details. Lg LR, formal DR, FR off kitchen.
Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900



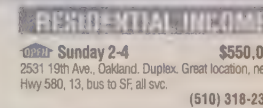
OAKLAND
Sat & Sun 2-4
7749 Sterling, Brick house. Park-like setting. Skylights. Big Kit. 1 car gar.
Martin Holmes (510) 712-0073



OAKLAND
Sat & Sun 2-4
1526 Tucker, 2 BR/2.5 BR, townhouse, 1450 sq.ft. like new, a beauty!
Natasha Hawkins (510) 868-1400



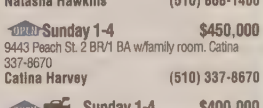
OAKLAND
Sunday 1-4
9443 Peach St. 2 BR/1 BA w/family room. Catina 337-6670
Catina Harvey (510) 337-8670



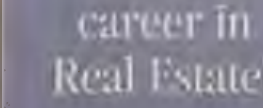
OAKLAND
Sunday 1-4
2610 11th Ave. 3 BR/2 BA, hardwood floor, new paint, garage, yards.
Cp Yang (510) 834-2010



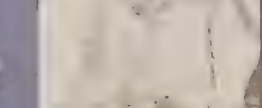
OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30
1747 Buena Vista. Lovely, spacious 5+ BR/3.5 BA. Traditional w/den floor plan.
Heidi Marchesotti (510) 339-9290



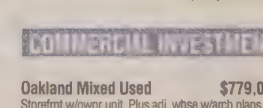
OAKLAND
Sat & Sun 2-5
151 Lakeside Drive #201. Immaculate 2+ BR/2 BA condo w/great lake views!
Ed Marshall (510) 339-9290



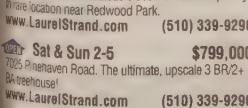
OAKLAND
Sunday 1-4
8126 Idlewood. Lovely 2 BR/1 BA, FP in LR. Formal DR.
Ellen Posey (510) 834-2010



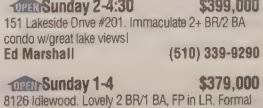
OAKLAND
Sat & Sun 2-5
1 Kelton #7K. Classy & open floor plan. 1 BR/1 BA. Views!
Jake (510) 868-1400



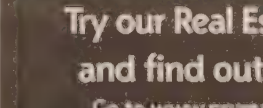
OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30
256 Covington. Great all-level 2 BR/2 BA home in Shattuck Village.
Mylice Wong (510) 339-9290



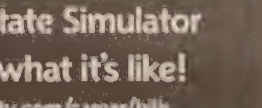
OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30
3649 Widen, 2+ BR/2 BA bungalow w/gourmet kitchen and views.
Brian Santilena (510) 428-0900



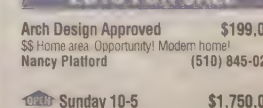
OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30
2747 Mountain Gate. Price reduced! Light-filled 3 BR/2 BA 50's modern.
Janet Flint (510) 339-9290



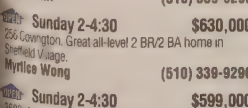
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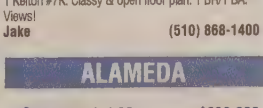
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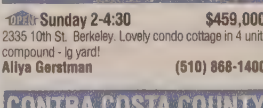
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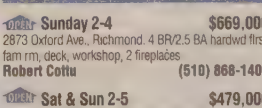
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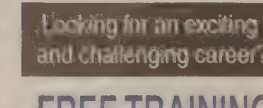
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2747 Mountain Gate. Price reduced! Light-filled 3 BR/2 BA 50's modern.
Janet Flint (510) 339-9290



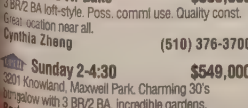
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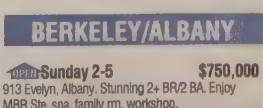
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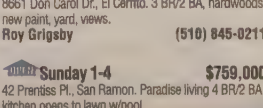
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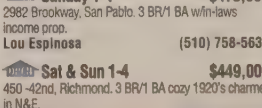
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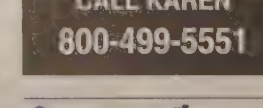
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BERKELEY/ALBANY

Sunday 2-4:30
2335 10th St. Berkeley. Lovely condo cottage in 4 unit compound - lg yard!
Allya Gerstman (510) 868-1400

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 2-4
2873 Oxford Ave., Richmond. 4 BR/2.5 BA hardwood flrs, fam rm, deck, workshop, 2 fireplaces
Robert Cotti (510) 868-1400

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sat & Sun 2-5
858-35th St. Richmond. Late 20's beauty. Private garden.
Maggie Resnick (510) 527-9800

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 1-4
8661 Don Carol Dr. El Cerrito. 3 BR/2 BA, hardwoods, new paint, yard, views.
Roy Grigsby (510) 845-0211

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 1-4
42 Prentiss Pl., San Ramon. Paradise living 4 BR/2 BA kitchen opens to lawn w/pool.
Kathy Dittmer (510) 428-0900

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sat & Sun 1-4
450-42nd, Richmond. 3 BR/1 BA cozy 1920's charmer in N.E.
Eglidia Bollini (510) 527-9800

RESIDENTIAL INCOME

Sunday 2-4
2531 19th Ave., Oakland. Duplex. Great location, near Hwy 580, 13, bus to SF, all svc.
(510) 318-2336

Sunday 1-5
2814 California St., Berkeley. 2 M duplex. Front-2 BR. Rear-3 BR/1.5 BA + bonus room.
(415) 921-0113

COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT

Oakland Mixed Used
Storefront w/owner unit. Plus adj. whse w/wh plans. Nr Frnt. BART.
Barry Klein (510) 845-0211

LOTS FOR SALE

Arch Design Approved
\$\$ Home area. Opportunity! Modern home!
Nancy Plattford (510) 845-0211

Sunday 10-5
20 Hiller Drive, Oakland. Across Bently School, half acre, piano views.
Fatima Ali (510) 845-0211

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FREE TRAINING

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800-499-5551

open home virtual album

ALAMEDA 510-337-8670 BERKELEY REGIONAL 510-868-1400 CLAREMONT 510-845-0211 EL CERRITO 510-527-9800 EL SOBRANTE 510-758-5637 GRAND LAKE 510-834-2010 HAYWARD 510-119-9290 PIEDMONT 510-428-0900 RICHMOND 510-232-7253

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Paint

FROM PAGE B13

sprayer costs \$100-\$300 or more. A hose to carry the paint from the can to the sprayer costs around \$125. Compressors cost \$150 to more than \$1,000.

(Compressors can be used for a variety of other purposes and with many other air-powered tools.)

These systems are designed for major painting work, but they are not without drawbacks.

The air-powered sprayer gun can't spray thick paint, and there's often a lot of overspray. You have to be skilled at using the tool to be efficient.

With both air-powered and airless sprayers, you will need to buy tips. Your sprayer may come with a tip, or you may buy one separately. Adjustable tips are best, accommodating wide and narrow spray choices.

If you buy a separate tip, you should know what the numbers mean on it.

The first digit indicates half the width of the spray measured from

12 inches between the tip and the object being sprayed. The rest of the number indicates the size of the opening in thousandths of an inch.

So, the number 810 on a tip would tell you that the tip would spray a 16-inch-wide swath when held 12 inches away. The opening is 10 thousandths of an inch wide.

The size of the opening makes it possible for you to judge whether the sprayer can handle certain types of solutions.

Information that comes with the sprayer may indicate it can handle thin or thick paints, stains or enamels in just those words, but it also may indicate the size of the opening that would work best for each one.

Usually, for example, the smaller openings — say, .009-.013 — can easily handle stains, water sealers and lacquers. Openings at the larger end of the scale — say, .015-.019 — may be best for exterior latex paints.

So, after all this, which sprayer should you buy? This depends on the paint projects you might tackle and what you want to spend.

Most do-it-yourselfers who use sprayers frequently don't clean them properly. The next time you try to use it, the tip or other parts are clogged, and you give up on the device.

Keep in mind something else as well. Most do-it-yourselfers who use sprayers frequently don't clean them properly. There's a tendency to try to do a lot at one time, then set the sprayer down while you take a break. Or maybe you didn't clean it thoroughly after the last big job. The next time you try to use it, the tip or other parts are clogged, and you give up on the device.

If you're the type who cleans tools properly afterward and follows guides on thickness of paint to use, a good-quality sprayer is worth the investment.

CONTACT THE REAL ESTATE EDITOR AT 510-748-1655 OR E-MAIL DEVANOSKY@CCTIMES.COM.

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Rich in character, think cool & sophisticated and truly ultra inviting. Situated on a private cul-de-sac in coveted Kensington neighborhood. 3BR/2+BA. Beamed ceilings, open floor plan and lots of glass to enjoy the beautiful SF views. Gorgeous state-of-the-art kitchen-sub-zero, 6-burner range- top of the line everything! Cherry cabinets & granite counters. Dining deck off kitchen & lovely garden. A very special property!

Offered at \$925,000



25 Highgate Ct., Kensington

The GRUBB Co.
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Office: 510.652.2133/414
rfrassetto@grubbco.com



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LAKE MERRITT AREA OAKLAND

OPEN SUNDAY
OCT. 2
1-5 PM



1032-1036 E 19TH ST.
CHARMING BROWN SHINGLE DUPLEX

PREPARE TO FALL IN LOVE!! Two units with period details offer 3 bedrooms and 1 bath in the upstairs owners unit with updated kitchen, formal dining room with built in, fireplace, wood walls and lots of charm. There's 2 bedrooms and 1 bath downstairs, living room with fireplace and leaded glass built in, formal dining with fireplace and two generous sized bedrooms. Each unit has a separate laundry area with storage and additional storage in basement. There's a nice yard with deck. Both units to be delivered vacant. Stop by and fall in love with this special home. You'll be glad you did!!

Offered at \$699,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723
View photos at www.donnaconroy.com
Or www.Realtor.com



FABULOUS PROPERTY

3911 HAPPY VALLEY ROAD, LAFAYETTE



Live On Your Own Private Resort! Fabulous estate on 1.53 heavily wooded acres in prestigious Happy Valley. Magnificent home has 4 spacious BR's & 6 full bths in main home. Huge gourmet eat-in kitchen w/frpls and adj. Fam room. Living room w/frpls & Fab views; formal dining room has French doors to serene patio. Lux master suite w/ sitting room & Frpls & access to private balcony. Sparkling pool has cabana w/kitchen, bath & BR. Lighted tennis court. Spacious guest

house w/living quarters, kit, bath & exercise rm. Quick close - Immediate possession.
www.discriminatinghomes.com



Jerilyn Babington
510-547-1615
925-253-4601
925-212-9228

www.discriminatinghomes.com

\$3,200,000



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



Open Sat & Sun
2-4:30

310 Pacific Avenue, Piedmont

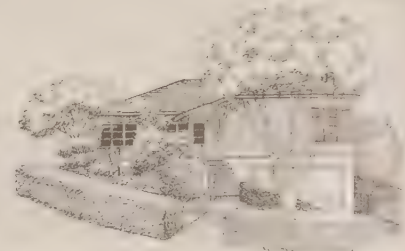
Sophisticated Updated Piedmont home. Level living, bridge & bay views, incredible storage, and unfinished space with more views.
Offered for \$1,350,000



LINDA VAN DRENT
International President's Elite
510.913.7018
Linda@LindaVanDrent.com



New Listing



8 Alida Court, Lincoln Heights

Charming Traditional! Great floor plan: 3bd/1.5 on one level. Formal Dining & Living rooms. Bonus room and attached garage downstairs. Lovely fenced yard. Great location and easy access.

Offered at \$659,000

Open Sunday 2-4:30

Liat Bostick
510-339-4734



Open Sunday 2-4:30



6171 Ruthland, Montclair

Sharp Contemporary! This stylish home is a spacious and airy serene retreat, nestled on a large parcel with views of the Bay and Hills. The combination kitchen/family room opens onto a large patio and terraced walking garden. The versatile floor plan includes four bedrooms and three baths; formal living room with fireplace and hill views; plus office/rumpus on the lower level.

Joan Duffield
510-339-4714

Offered at \$1,499,000
www.camoves.com/joanduffield

Open Sun 2-4:30



5601 Denton Place, Oakland

Hillcrest Estates. 2+ acres w/privacy & 3 bridge views. Gated all fenced w/ pool, spa & solar heat. Rehabed 8 years ago. 4 Bed & 3.5 Ba.

Offered at \$2,200,000



Judy Ackerman
(510) 339-4749
Previews Property Specialist
www.camoves.com



New Listing Open Sun 2-4:30



404 Hiller

Hiller Townhome with upgrades. End unit open & airy with soaring ceilings, garden views, and new cherry wood floors. Features include a balcony, patio, 2 fireplaces, and a spacious master & bath w/ skylight. Plus rm w/ 3rd bedroom. Membership in Hiller Highlands Club included. See photos at www.404hillerdr.com

Joan Duffield
510-339-4774
camoves.com/joan.duffield



This week's Open Home Guide can be found starting on B24.

CLAREMONT PINES/ROCKRIDGE MASTERPIECE



This stunning Tuscan-style, 5 bedroom, 4 bath, light and airy home is located in coveted Claremont Pines. Embraced by gorgeous views of San Francisco and exquisite, professionally landscaped grounds. An exceptional home offering spectacular style and

stunning details throughout. An elegant entry opens to the living room, complete with beautiful arched windows and a grand fireplace. The spacious gourmet kitchen is every cook's dream come true! Relax by the fireplace, in the private and spacious master bedroom suite. Superb location, just blocks from College Avenue, transportation and BART. 162 Beechwood, Oakland
New Price \$2,245,000



Beth Barger
Prudential California Realty
342 Highland Ave, Piedmont CA
(510) 229-9221
(510) 273-9454



Open Sundays October 2nd and 9th. New Listing 856 The Alameda



Ideally located near North Berkeley's favorite Solano Ave area of shops and cafes, this spacious, private home has a flexible floor plan, suitable for various lifestyles. Its amenities include:
- 3 bedrooms on a split level up including a master suite with deck.
- Bedroom, family room, potential 2nd kitchen down with bath level out to great deck and garden.
- Huge living room/dining room, eat-in kitchen and private front patio area.

Priced at \$875,000 as-is.
Requires Court Confirmation

BERKELEYHOME

REAL ESTATE & INVESTMENT
www.BerkeleyHome.com
1575 Hopkins St. (corner of Monterey)
Berkeley, California

Tim Q. Cannon and Anne L. Politeo,
Listing Agents
510 527-5500



5555 Moraga Ave. Piedmont Side of Montclair

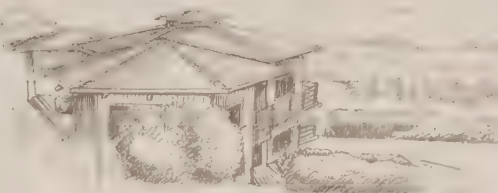
Built in 2003 this distinctive home features a dramatic thirty foot foyer, palatial curved stairway and expansive dining/living area with high ceilings, majestic windows and maple tile-surround fireplace. An epicurean kitchen and open family room provide for wonderful entertaining. Upstairs is a master suite with sumptuous bath, a junior Suite with private patio, two additional bedrooms and full bath.

Offered at \$1,195,000

Julie Joyce
(510) 339-4725



NEW LISTING



145 Lawson Road, Kensington

OPEN SUN 2 - 4:30. INSPIRING VIEWS! Experience the magic of far-away places in this distinctively designed 4-BDR/4BA Kensington home. The flexible floor plan is fabulous for entertaining and the spacious downstairs is ideal as a family/au-pair suite. Enjoy the wonderful neighborhood & top-rated schools

Offered at \$1,400,000
Open Sunday 10/2 & 10/9
www.145lawson.com



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(510) 981-3048 Direct
(510) 206-2686 Cell
tania.balazs@cbnocal.com



Barb Allendorf
Direct (510) 981-3019
Cell (510) 684-3468
www.thathouselady.com



COLDWELL BANKER

www.CaliforniaMoves.com

Berkeley 510.486.1495 • Oakland 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

OAKLAND \$3,800,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Equestrian facility
w/ 4 living qtrs, 60 stalls for horses
barns w/ covered. Main house is a
masterpiece w/ 2 kits. All redone.
Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700

ALBANY \$850,000
4 BR 2.5 BA 2 story Penthouse. Open
kitchen area and kit, hw flrs; SF Views.
www.555Pierce1339.com
Fritz Bagherzadeh 510.486.1495

OPEN HOUSES

BERKELEY HILLS \$3,250,000
Sun 2 - 4
1600 San Luis Rd
3 BR 3 BA Asian Craftsman fusion. LV
open floorplan, yard w/pool & BBQ.
great for entertaining.
Alan & Barbara Marienthal
510.486.1495

HILLCREST ESTATES \$2,200,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3.5 BA Redone, lvl in, gated
w/ vus, pool/hot tub. Over 2 acres.
Gourmet Kit.
Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700

WALNUT CREEK \$1,700,000
Sat 1 - 4/Sun 1:30 - 5
4 BR 3.5 BA Retreat from the city.
Open floorplan, yard w/pool & BBQ.
great for entertaining.
Ellen Lancaster 510.339.4700

PIEDMONT \$1,595,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 2 BA Lvl Contemp hme w/sunny
spacious rms, frml liv/din rms, hwd
flrs, 2nd AC gar.
Barbara Hardacre 510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR \$1,499,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3 BA Indoor/outdoor living from
room rm & kit serene setting on large
parcel.
Joan Duffield 510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR \$1,499,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3.5 BA Fabulous Contemporary
with Gourmet kitchen, big S.F. Bay
views new construction.
David Eckert 510.339.4700

BERKELEY \$1,400,000
Sun 2 - 4
4 BR 4 BA Lovingly restored Victorian.
cabled roof, signature tower, bay
windows, remod kit, 2 frplcs.
Michael Powers 510.486.1495

ALBANY \$1,099,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 2.5 BA Bay vus/Mt. Tam & bridges,
spacious design, Nr entrance to park,
lscdpd yrd, hwd flrs
Karyn Selby-Miller 510.339.4700

1495 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley

OPEN HOUSES

KENSINGTON \$1,400,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
145 Lawson Rd.
4+BR 4 BA VIEWS! Magical home.
Great floor plan for entertaining &
spacious family/au-pair suite
Barb Allendorf/ Tania Balazs-Gvishi
510.486.1495

LEONA HEIGHTS \$1,299,000
Sun 1:30 - 4:30
4 BR 4 BA Country Pavilion estates.
Grand size rms, almost 1 acre. One of
a kind & special
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700

PIEDMONT AVE \$799,000
Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
81-83 Echo Ave
Piedmont Ave. duplex, 3/2 & 1/
1, remod, gourmet kit, FR, HW/tile/bam
flrs, radiant heating
Dan Joy 510.339.4700

PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR \$1,195,000
Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
5555 Moraga
4 BR 4 BA 1st time on market, 30-ft
foyer, grand stairway, epicurean kit.
www.5555Moraga.com
Julie Joyce 510.339.4700

BERKELEY HILLS \$1,175,000
Sun 2 - 4
781 Spruce
4 BR 3 BA Totally remod mid century
home. Bay view. Hwd, lrg fam rm, 2 car
gar, huge deck. Lrg lot.
Kathie Longinotti 510.486.1495

350 Taurine Ave \$765,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3 BA Light & Bright retreat;
FamRm & LivRm with FRs; romantic
turret
CJ Boydston 510.339.4700

HILLER HIGHLANDS \$732,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
404 Hiller Dr.
2 BR 2.5 BA Hiller end unit, wd flrs
balcony, patio, 2 fpl, mstr & ba w/skylt.
Ofc or 3rd bdrm, 4 Club
Nancy Dickey 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$729,000
Sun 2 - 5
168 Maiden Lane
3 BR 2 BA Opn spacious, flr pln, 3/2 incl
mstr ste on 1 lvl, kit/fam rm lvl-out to
patio/grdn. Vu
Rachel Baller 510.339.4700

EL CERRITO \$779,000
Sun 2 - 5
537 Bonnie Dr.
3+BR 2 BA Great views & space!
Gorgeous kitchen, fm, rm, wrkshp,
skylights, hot tub, open flr plan.
Zanna Knight 510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4:30
1415 Carleton
3 BR 1 BA Charming, remodeled and in
move in condition. Close to
transportation & Berkeley Bowl
Azaria Berhane 510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4:30
2748 California St.
2 BR 1 BA Tastefully remodeled
bungalow. All of the details are here
Private back yard. Come & see!
Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Ages
510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4:30
844 Lexington Ave.
3+BR 2 BA Walk to BART. Warm,
spacious, approx. 1,637 sq.ft. Family
room, patio, near shopping.
Barbara Levy 510.486.1495

LAUREL \$579,000
Sun 1 - 4
2507 Carmel Street
2 BR 1 BA Sophisticated! Classy
updated kitchen & marble bathroom,
magnificent stonescape yard
Vicky Faulk 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES

MONTCLAIR HILLS \$929,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
6620 Gunn Dr
3 BR 2 BA Spanish Med. Spacious frml
rms, hwd flrs, patios & frplc
George Karsant 510.339.4700

HERCULES \$910,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
1099 S. Shelter Bay
5 BR 3 BA Kit/fam rm combo, laundry,
frplcs, & lscdpd yds, bay vus.
Kelley Nayo 510.339.4700

LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$829,000
Sat 2 - 4/Sun 3 - 7
4188 Wilshire Blvd
3 BR 2 BA Upgraded jewel, City/Bay
Vus, lvl lscdpd site, patio w/kit, in/out
Rapport
Rachel Baller 510.339.4700

WALNUT CREEK \$650,000
Sun 2 - 4
1682 2nd Ave
3 BR 1 BA Remodeled hme w/lvl bck/
frnt yds. Granite & ss kitchen,
beautiful tile work in bathrooms
David Eckert 510.339.4700

MARTINEZ \$625,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
1060 Stoneybrook Dr
3 BR 2.5 BA Great updated hme: near
shops, food, schools, freeway.
Ellen Lancaster 510.339.4700

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4
2748 California St.
2 BR 1 BA Tastefully remodeled
bungalow. All of the details are here
Private back yard. Come & see!
Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Ages
510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4:30
1415 Carleton
3 BR 1 BA Charming, remodeled and in
move in condition. Close to
transportation & Berkeley Bowl
Azaria Berhane 510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4:30
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2 BR 1 BA Tastefully remodeled
bungalow. All of the details are here
Private back yard. Come & see!
Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Ages
510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$599,000
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844 Lexington Ave.
3+BR 2 BA Walk to BART. Warm,
spacious, approx. 1,637 sq.ft. Family
room, patio, near shopping.
Barbara Levy 510.486.1495

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Vicky Faulk 510.339.4700

EL CERRITO \$579,000
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Vicky Faulk 510.339.4700

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Sun 1 - 4
2507 Carmel Street
2 BR 1 BA Sophisticated! Classy
updated kitchen & marble bathroom,
magnificent stonescape yard
Vicky Faulk 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES

BERKELEY \$699,000
Sun 2 - 4
1160 Keeler
2 BR 2 BA Lovely home. Fresh paint, hw
floors, 2 frplcs, in-law unit and large yd
Tomi Thomas 510.486.1495

LAKE MERRITT \$699,000
Sun 1 - 5
1032-36 East 19th St.
Brown Shingle duplex 3/1 up 2/1 down
Beautiful original details. Prepare to fall
in love!
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700

LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$639,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
8 Alida Ct
3 BR 1.5 BA Charming Lincoln Heights
Traditional. Frml Liv/Din & plus rm,
lovely yrd, garage.
Liat Bostick 510.339.4700

WALNUT CREEK \$650,000
Sun 2 - 4
1682 2nd Ave
3 BR 1 BA Remodeled hme w/lvl bck/
frnt yds. Granite & ss kitchen,
beautiful tile work in bathrooms
David Eckert 510.339.4700

MARTINEZ \$625,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
1060 Stoneybrook Dr
3 BR 2.5 BA Great updated hme: near
shops, food, schools, freeway.
Ellen Lancaster 510.339.4700

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4
2748 California St.
2 BR 1 BA Tastefully remodeled
bungalow. All of the details are here
Private back yard. Come & see!
Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Ages
510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4:30
1415 Carleton
3 BR 1 BA Charming, remodeled and in
move in condition. Close to
transportation & Berkeley Bowl
Azaria Berhane 510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4:30
2748 California St.
2 BR 1 BA Tastefully remodeled
bungalow. All of the details are here
Private back yard. Come & see!
Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Ages
510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$599,000
Sun 1 - 4:30
844 Lexington Ave.
3+BR 2 BA Walk to BART. Warm,
spacious, approx. 1,637 sq.ft. Family
room, patio, near shopping.
Barbara Levy 510.486.1495

LAUREL \$579,000
Sun 1 - 4
2507 Carmel Street
2 BR 1 BA Sophisticated! Classy
updated kitchen & marble bathroom,
magnificent stonescape yard
Vicky Faulk 510.339.4700

EL CERRITO \$579,000
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magnificent stonescape yard
Vicky Faulk 510.339.4700

EL CERRITO \$579,000
Sun 1 - 4
2507 Carmel Street
2 BR 1 BA Sophisticated! Classy
updated kitchen & marble bathroom,
magnificent stonescape yard
Vicky Faulk 510.339.4700

EL CERRITO \$579,000
Sun 1 - 4
2507 Carmel Street
2 BR 1 BA Sophisticated! Classy
updated kitchen & marble bathroom,
magnificent stonescape yard
Vicky Faulk 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES

EL CERRITO \$575,000
Sun 2 - 4
6626 Cutting Blvd.
3 BR 1 BA Fresh pnt & hwd floors,
Attached office w full bath. Large sunny
back yard & apple tree
Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Ages
510.486.1495

MONTCLAIR \$549,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
11051 Broadway Terrace
2 BR 1 BA Mid Century modern w/
potential overlooking a wooded setting
Lots of storage, carport.
Claudia Bowman 510.339.4700

ADAMS POINT \$549,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
490 Jean St
2 BR 1 BA City views, deck, hwd flrs,
remod kit & ba, frn DR, and a beautiful
fireplace.
Gary Robinson 510.339.4700

EL CERRITO \$529,000
Sun 2 - 4
441 Norvell St.
3 BR 1 BA Price Reduced. New granite
counters & Large private yard.
Detached garage/workshop.
Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Ages
510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$529,000
Sun 1 - 4
2763 Dohr St
2 BR 1 BA Cute Berkeley Bungalow!
Light, bright w/many upgrades HDWD,
FDR, updated KIT and Systems.
Gene Della Maggiora 510.486.1495

OAKLAND \$525,000
Sun 2 - 5
9617 C St.
4 BR 3 BA Updated triplex w/ prvt
courtyards & 3 car grg, spacious units,
new carpet, tile & paint
Laura Archegia 510.486.1495

LAUREL \$499,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
3024 Madeline
2 BR 1 BA Sunn, Laurel Bungalow.
Updated kitchen & bath. Great flow.
Gleaming HWE Level yard
Karen Lum 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$429,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
9318-9320 Holly St
Duplex features side-by-side 1/1 units.
Easy access to abundant neighborhood
amenities.
Jeffrey Needleman 510.339.4700

SAN PABLO \$329,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
41 Campo Verde
2 BR 2.5 BA 2story, 2car garage
townhouse w/nicely landscaped yard &
mature trees
Gary/Noni Robinson 510.339.4700

BERKELEY \$239,000
Sun 2 - 4:30
1515 Hopkins #5
Great N. Berk studio across from
Monterey Market. Good light, low HOA
dues, clean & quiet.
Judy Arvin 510.486.1495

PRINCETON CAPITAL
800.558.4443

6137 La Salle Avenue, Oakland

Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section. The first place to look when looking for a new home.

Pitfalls and profits of rental-house investments

A few weeks ago I was in Washington, D.C., attending a seminar. One day I enjoyed lunch with a long-time real estate investor from Florida, a prospective realty investor from Philadelphia, and another prospective real estate tycoon from New York City. Because two of us were realty investors, the discussion soon turned to the pros and cons of investing in rental houses.

We all noted houses are currently the best long-term real estate investments. Most homeowners will agree their best financial investment has been their personal residence.

But then the topic eroded into the negative but very realistic topic of how to earn enough rental income to pay rental-house carrying costs while, hopefully, the house appreciates in market value.

Advantages of Investing in rental houses

The primary advantage of owning sound, well-located rental houses is they usually appreciate in market value just as fast as nearby owner-occupied houses. According to the National Association of Realtors, av-

erage annual appreciation of houses is just over 5 percent annually. But, frankly, that doesn't sound very exciting.

However, most rental-house investors don't pay all cash. They use leverage to control a property but invest as little of their own cash as possible. Leverage increases return per dollar invested.

For example, suppose you buy a \$100,000 rental house for cash and it appreciates a typical 5 percent in market value during the next 12 months. That's not a great investment to just earn 5 percent annually on your \$100,000 cash, is it?

However, instead suppose you

See BRUSS, Page B20



ROBERT BRUSS

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Located in Glenview, this two bedroom, one bath home has been updated throughout. Wonderful eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, hardwood floors, plantation shutters and a private back garden with hot tub.

Offered at \$649,000



MARLENA LYONS
510.339.0400/355
mlyons@grubbco.com

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

KURT BUCHHOLZ
510.339.0400/221
buchholz@grubbco.com

1751 East 38th Street
Oakland

A good deal is based on trust.



- 1: Is it the TRUTH?
- 2: Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3: Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4: Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

These four questions form the basis of a trusting business relationship. I take these principals of Rotary International as my personal business credo.

With 25 years of experience as a real estate broker and leader in our community, you can trust me to give you honest assistance based on personal integrity.

Call me to discuss your Bay Area real estate or estate planning questions. I'd love to talk with you.

510 435-1623

MDBottano@aol.com

www.pnurealty.com/MarleneBottano



Prudential
California Realty, Piedmont



Marlene Daniels Bottano

OAKLAND - JINGLETOWN

Grand Opening Sun 12-5, 605 Lancaster St

6 Newly Constructed, spacious & incredibly bright live/work lofts have huge walk-in closets, gourmet kitchens & pvt. garages. 1+ bdrms, 2 baths. Great neighborhoods, shops & BART all within walking distance. Priced From \$550,000 - \$620,000



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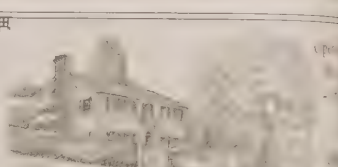
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Enhanced by spectacular Claremont Canyon views, peek of Mt. Tam & the Bay, this newer home was built in 1996. It features dramatic living & dining room, spacious kitchen w/ breakfast bar, 4 bdrms & a Roomy 2-car garage & abundant storage. Easily a rear yard amongst the bay laurels



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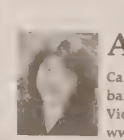
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1169 HILLARY WAY, BAY FARM OF ALAMEDA
2 year old SFR shows like a model. 4 bed 2.5 bath. Great floor plan. Granite countertops. Upgraded maple cabinets & tile floor. Upgraded fireplace. Upgraded Berber carpet and a large two-car garage. Open Sat & Sun 12-5

1125 BISHOP ST, EAST END OF ALAMEDA
Beautiful expanded 4 bed 2 bath home on a quiet street in East End. Sunny living room, formal dining room and a big kitchen. Polished hardwood floors. A large 1 car garage with huge basement. Yard with a garden. Open Sun 2-4

32 THURLES PLACE, BAY FARM OF ALAMEDA
4 bed 2.5 bath SFR at the end of cul-de-sac in one of the best neighborhoods in Bay Farm. Vaulted ceiling in the living room, formal dining room, family room with brick fireplace. Beautiful Sunroom and two-car garage. Open Sat & Sun 12-5

3111 LA CAMPANIA, BAY FARM OF ALAMEDA
Beautiful 4bed 2.5 bath townhome in Casitas on Bay Farm. Updated kitchen & bath, landscaped courtyard, new double pane windows, ceiling fans and large living room. 2 car garage. Open Sat & Sun 1-4

325 KITTY HAWK, SOUTHSIDE OF ALAMEDA
2bd 2 full bath large condo w/beautiful upgrades, half block to beach-pool & clubhouse. Open Sun 1-4

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COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Comments
First Blackhawk Financial 800-796-MARY DRE# 01144055 Fees=\$1759	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.642...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.043...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.625...0.000 5.669...30	10/1 ARM Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.918...30	JUMBO AND SUPER JUMBO SPECIALIST Call 7 days a week 1(800) 796-MARY More rates at www.marylightell.com
Golden Gate Home Loans 877-246-5899 DRE# 6052720 Fees=\$1532	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.125 5.695...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.038...30	5/1 ARM 5.375...0.000 5.410...30	Pick-A-Payment*** 1.000...0.000 5.448...30	OPEN DAILY 8AM-8PM **30 JUMBO 700 FICO ***Pot Neg Am/ PMT on \$500K=\$1608
Imperial Mortgage 800-961-2274 DRE# 01033932 Fees=\$1453	30-yr Fixed 5.500...1.000 5.690...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...1.000 5.940...30	3/1 ARM I/O 4.825...1.000 4.820...30	5/1 JUMBO ARM I/O 5.125...1.000 5.320...30	DON'T BE "LURED IN" BY LOW QUOTES! CALL ME FOR AN HONEST LOCKABLE RATE FIND OUT WHY I GET TONS OF REFERRALS! I'M HERE NOW!
Los Gatos Lending Conn 866-660-0957 DRE# 0120299 Fees=\$1945	30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.250 5.590...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.910...30	Jumbo 7/1 to 1 ml 5.250...0.825 6.012...30	Conf 30-yr Fx I/O 5.875...0.000 5.900...30	**80% Pur/65% Refi 700 fco Stated Income *70% Riv/720 fco. Low FICO scores-Call Us Apply losgatoslending.com get \$400 credit
Main Line-Tavistock Mtge. 877-876-3600 DRE# 603 A784 Fees=\$1286	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.693...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.125 5.917...30	20-yr Fixed 5.375...0.000 5.410...30	15-yr Fixed 5.250...0.000 5.316...30	BEST RATE AND FEE GUARANTEE NO APP OR LOCK FEE. MAINLINE/NATIONAL.COM EMPLOYEE PRICING FOR ALL CUSTOMERS.
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 DRE# 0088762 Fees=\$1875	30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.000 5.554...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...1.000 5.993...30	15-yr Fixed 5.375...0.500 5.804...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.990...1.000 5.165...30	Great Purchase, Refinance, Construction/Home Equity, 100% LTV Loans Great Service, Over 25 years in Business
Saratoga Bancorp 800-935-6266 DRE# 01220325 Fees=\$1893	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ...	15-yr Fixed call ...	5/1 ARM call ...	Call for No Fee Loans. All Credits. No Income Check Loans! Purch/Refi to 100%. saratogabancorp.com
Venstar Financial 866-580-6771 DRE# 01402745 Fees=\$1155	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.729...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.879...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.500...0.000 5.723...30	7/23 ARM 5.500...0.000 5.630...30	100% financing full doc or stated income Commercial loans for 5+ units, mixed use Fixed 2nd loan rate as low as 6.15%
Washington Mutual Bank 925-256-7171 Fees=\$1149	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ...	5/6 ARM Jumbo call ...	10/1 ARM Jumbo call ...	Purchases/Closes In just 7 days/NO POINTS Complimentary Pre-Approvals/NO POINTS (925) 256-7171 (866) WAMU-296
Wells Fargo Home Mtge. 925-736-1125 Fees=\$1180	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ...	10/1 ARM I/O call ...	5/1 ARM I/O call ...	LOCAL - PURCHASE - Close in 7 Days! Call Our Team Today! - 925-736-1125 Jumbo 30 Yr Fix, 10/1, 5/1 ARM Int Only
Wells Fargo Home Mtge. 866-889-1502 Fees=\$1431	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.000...0.000 6.041...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo* 5.375...0.000 5.407...30	10/1 ARM Jumbo* 5.625...0.000 5.669...30	100% to 1 ML. Free Pre Approval Credit Lines to 3ML. * Purchase loan* Bank Relationship
AAJA Discount Mortgage 877-728-3569 DRE# 6038189 Fees=\$1833	30-yr Fixed 5.500 0.500 5.589...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.500 5.930...30	1 Mo Option ARM 1.000...0.000 1.034...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...1.000 4.875...30	Discounts For Excellent Credit I/O Available on all products WWW.FORTHEBESTRATE.COM 1-877-728-3569
Absolute Mortgage Fund. 888-90-HOMES DRE# 603 A776 Fees=\$1359	30-yr Fixed 5.500...0.250 5.589...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.900...30	15-yr Fixed 5.125...0.000 5.160...30	5/1 ARM 5.000...0.000 5.900...30	LOWEST RATES AND FEES IN THE INDUSTRY! Free Floet Downs Lender fees only \$399! CALL 888-90-HOMES
AlmLoan.com 888-411-4246 DRE# 01235124 Fees=\$2400	30-yr Fixed 5.500...0.125 5.635...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.125 5.816...30	15-yr Fixed 5.125...0.000 5.249...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125...0.375 6.042...30	Rates & Fees Online-Apply & Lock Online Guaranteed Rates & Fees Open Sat/Sun 9-2 P.M. PT
AmeriSave Mortgage Corp. 877-464-5218 DRE# 6038692 Fees=\$1223	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.730...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.903...30	3/1 ARM 4.875...0.000 6.224...30	5/1 ARM 4.875...0.000 6.086...30	No closing costs loans available www.amerisave.com.Best rates and lowest fees guaranteed or we pay you \$300!
California Mortgage Mart 800-947-4769 DRE# 00405167 Fees=\$1695	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.710...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.910...30	15-yr Fixed 5.250...0.000 5.390...30	1-yr ARM Jumbo 4.375...0.000 4.410...30	www.CAmortagemart.com for updated rates & loan application. Interest Only ARMS. *Purch only, LTV<65%, FICO>720
CMG Mortgage Services 800-958-5339 DRE# 01370755 Fees=\$1853	30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.250 5.643...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...1.000 5.787...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...1.125 4.997...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125...1.500 6.262...30	OPEN SAT & SUN. QUICK QUALIFIER OR NO INCOME LOANS AVAILABLE. NO POINTS LOANS AVAILABLE.
Countrywide Home Loans 877-944-3400	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ...	Pay Option ARM 1.000...0.000 4.930...30	10/1 ARM Jumbo call ...	FREE pre-approval. Refinance/2nd homes. 100% financing/ no docs/ stated income 1.00% start rates. Call now 866-903-9888
ditech.com 800-616-8208 DRE# 6038624 Fees=\$1890	30-yr Fixed 5.250...2.000 5.340...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...2.000 5.730...30	15-yr Fixed 4.875...2.000 5.041...30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.250...2.000 5.636...30	Se habla Espanol. Your mortgage solution. Delivered! Apply now at ditech.com
Downey Savings & Loan 800-798-2148 DRE# 6037471 Fees=\$1428	30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.875 5.673...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...1.375 6.017...45	1-mo COFI ARM* 1.000...1.000 5.682...45	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125...1.000 6.262...30	Direct lender. 47 yrs experience; fixed & adjust rate mtgs: *Pot. neg. armv. Apply online at www.downeysavings.com
Emortgages.com 800-619-4400 DRE# 01141472 Fees=\$1837	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.250 5.720...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.060...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.250...0.000 5.330...30	10/1 ARM Jumbo-I/O 6.750...0.000 5.800...30	No closing costs HELOC's and Fixed 2nd's No closing costs refinances Interest only for non-owner, 2nd homes

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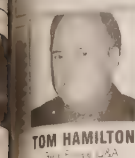
- Learn about each lender's products & services
- Learn about closing costs and types of loans
- Check out our useful mortgage calculators
- E-mail questions/scenarios to lenders
- Hotlinks to all lenders' websites
- Pre-qualify, pre-approve or apply online

Rates based on \$175,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$359,850) based on \$400,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate but cannot be guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. Minimum down payment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact each company for details. Points include origination and discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance if required. Lock-in rates for current, ARM-adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. *Avg 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points. Fees are estimated costs based on a \$175,000 purchase money loan and may vary from loan to loan. These are not inclusive of all costs and do not include points, prepaid interest, title insurance or escrow items. Click on "Fees" in "Current Mortgage Rates" section of website to contact each company for details. Copyright 2003, INFOTRAK National Data Services and Knight Publishing Co.

If you would like to be included in this Mortgage Guide, please call 781-276-1711

matter of pples and ranges

I am a widow, 62 years old, in poor health. I own a condo that is being rented out. I own a home where I have lived for two years. I want to sell both and use the proceeds to buy a duplex to live in one and rent the other unit to facilitate prop- management issues since I will be both at the same place



TOM HAMILTON
Real Estate

will not have to drive around to maintain the rental unit. Is it possible for me to use all my net capital gain minus my original payment from the sale of the condo and some proceeds from my sale to buy this duplex and not pay any tax liability?

You have two issues. Your residence is subject to one set of rules and the investment

personal residence is subject to another set of rules and the investment property is subject to another. Your personal residence is subject to a \$250,000 capital gain exclusion. The rental condo is subject to investment property rules.

property is subject to another. Your personal residence is subject to a \$250,000 capital gain exclusion. Therefore, you can take the sale proceeds from your personal residence and buy anything else (including the duplex) with those proceeds tax free. The rental condo is subject to investment property rules. If the new unit can be purchased for the cost of your existing personal residence, then you can buy it with cash. If it costs more, you might be able to "exchange" the rental unit for the half of the price into the half of the unit that you rent. This is, as you see, fairly complex.

By HAMILTON, Page B18

est your KQ at free seminar

GALLAGHER AND LINDSEY
What's your HMQ? That stands for Homebuying Knowledge Quo- Did you know there is a lack of affordable housing, but a new workshop is proposed to help create housing units? Will the new have a zero downpay- product for borrowers? Though the cost of financing is historically low, housing is continue to push higher. All says do not put off a purchase. If you want to home, but this is your first you know where to start? And "How To Buy Your First Home" This free workshop is at the Homewood Suites, on the road, in Oakland from 10:30 a.m. to 1

Information targeted to first-time homebuyers. Find out what you qualify for a loan and how much house you can afford. About financing programs and homebuying strategies. Meet knowledgeable professionals and a team in order to provide information on all aspects of the home buying process. Several members on the team are bilingual. The additional languages are Chinese, Vietnamese and Tagalog. The workshop helps buyers make the right decision and could save them thou-

ceive a free Homebuyer's Handbook, credit report and a copy after the workshop for a one-on-one consultation. Bring a friend. But you must pre-register. Space is limited. Reserve a space by calling 510-865-4192 ext. 100 or visit www.GallagherAndLindsay.com

Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section on D4.



EL CERRITO

944 Avis Drive
Unbelievably serene, private, wooded setting on over a third of an acre. Gourmet kitchen, formal dining room, two totally remodeled bathrooms. This two bedroom home also features 3-car garage plus plenty of offstreet parking. There's nothing like it in El Cerrito!
\$827,000

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open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Be a part of wonderful Woodside Glen! This neighborhood of 21 newly constructed homes is adjacent to Joaquin Miller Park & a short distance to the amenities of Montclair Village. This Tudor style home features dramatic arched passageways, gourmet designer kitchen and lovely level garden. Four bedrooms, two and one half baths.
Offered at \$1,350,000



9 Woodside Glen Court, Oakland

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753 Santa Barbara, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30
Elegant, large Tudor sited on huge, beautifully landscaped lot. This gracious home is perfect for entertaining and easy living. Large living room, formal dining room, updated kitchen, library opening to level backyard. 5 bdrms (4 on 1 level), 3 baths, play room, office w/separate entrance, dark room, & lots of storage.
Maya Trilling x18 \$1,680,000



2470 Cedar Street, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30
First Open! Gracious & Spacious! Grand colonial in No. Berkeley occupies over 3600 sq. ft. on double lot. Library & banquet-size dining rm off inviting entry. Glorious living rm w/fpl matched upstairs w/equally lg master. 2 add'l bdrms each w/its own fpl, plus study & 2 baths upstairs. 3rd bath down. Sep. gar./storage area. Nr all amenities.
Arlene Baxter x19 \$1,150,000



616 The Alameda, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30
Quintessential Berkeley! Builders own home in 1924. Large living room enjoys dramatic view. Wood ceilings and detailing throughout. Spacious, formal dining room. Big lot with meandering paths and lush foliage.
Barbara Conheim x28 \$1,100,000



1111 Alvarado, Berkeley/Oakland
(@ Amito, Behind Claremont Hotel)
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30
New Listing! Captivating Claremont Canyon views with a peek of the Bay from this 1996 classic contemporary. Nice flow of living room, dining room and kitchen. 4 bdrms. 2.5 baths. Abundant storage & 2-car garage. Terrific value in best locale!
Warren Lei x14 \$949,000



702 Stannage, Albany
By Appointment Only
New Listing! 4-plex in great location. All one-bedroom units each with attached garages. Close to BART and Solano Avenue.
Bill and Tracy x33 \$729,000



150 Woodfield, Hercules
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30
Best Buy! Bring An Offer! 5 bdrms. 3 baths. Located at the end of a block in a cozy neighborhood. Gracious living room & dining area. Family rm w/brick fpl & sliding doors to deck, hot tub & gazebo. New gas range w/convection oven. Wood floors. Custom blinds. New roof & garage door. HOA w/pool & clubhouse.
Gay and Kay x51 \$725,000



1138 Washington Ave., Albany
By Appointment Only
New Listing! Rare 4-plex in Albany. All studio units. Great location close to BART and Solano amenities. Detached garages.
Bill & Tracy x33 \$669,000



275 Lake Dr., Kensington
By Appointment
Located on a country lane near Tilden Park and public transportation, this charming, one-level home has 3 bedrooms and a remodeled bathroom; the spacious kitchen opens to a large backyard, and there is a double garage.
Maya Trilling x18 \$665,000



149 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito
By Appointment
Gracious ranch-style home in wonderful condition. 3-bdrms, 2-baths with spacious living rm, formal dining rm, large eat-in kitchen & master bedroom suite. On a corner lot in a prized El Cerrito location near Fat Apples, this home is located just outside the Albany border.
Bill & Tracy x33 \$649,000



911 Modoc, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00
New Listing! A true Berkeley Original, this fabulous 2-bdrm home is chock full of unpainted Craftsman details: inlaid wood floors, wood-mullioned windows & matching entry door, chair & plate rails, frieze moldings, inset ceilings, bkcase-flanked fpl w/drop-leaf desk, leaded glass hutch... Large, sunny bdrst rm makes a great office.
Bill & Tracy x33 \$635,000



839 San Carlos, Albany
By Appointment
This classic 2-bdrm bungalow provides super access to all the riches of Albany living and Solano Avenue. Bright living room and dining area w/refinished hardwood floors & tiled fireplace. Spacious updated bath. Sweet kitchen w/built-in eating nook. Beautifully landscaped garden; one-car detached garage.
Arlene Baxter x19 \$585,000



706 Pomona Ave., Albany
By Appointment
2-bedroom Spanish-style home with spectacular living room and abundant charm. Interior has beautiful gumwood details, built-ins in formal dining room & hardwood floors throughout. This wonderful location is seconds from Memorial Park & all the Solano Avenue amenities.
Bill and Tracy x33 \$585,000



1400 Queens Rd., Berkeley
By Appointment
Delightful hideaway perched on a hill in great neighborhood. Marin/Bay view. Clean, bright 2+ bedrooms, 2 baths, move-in condition. Easy access to Lawrence Hall and U.C. Berkeley.
Barbara Conheim x28 \$575,000

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Hamilton

FROM PAGE B17

I suggest that you contact an investment advisor familiar with 1031 exchanges to see exactly how you can flow the proceeds from the investment portion of this problem into the other half of your duplex purchase. I believe that you will be able to work this out, but a complete set of information with actual (potential) transaction parameters is necessary.

Don't give up hope, for I believe that your situation can be resolved in a way that will minimize your tax burden. It is just a fairly complex problem that you need to consult with competent tax professionals to fully realize.

Q. I have a question about capital gains tax. My wife and I bought a house 15 years ago for \$69,000 and I paid it off completely when my daddy died. We moved to another house, so it is not our primary residence any longer. We have been renting it and using the funds to put my two children through college, but my current tenants want to buy it for close to \$300,000.

Would capital gains eat me up or is there a place to put the money where I wouldn't be taxed to death? I was thinking of paying off my mortgage on our residence, which is about \$180,000. What is the best thing to do?

A. Regardless of how long you have used the first house as a rental, you will have a significant capital gain on the sale of that property. If the investment basis now is around \$40,000 and you sell it for \$300,000 you have a \$260,000 gain to report. Many times people will use Section 1031 of the Internal Revenue Code to defer the gain through a property exchange.

However, since you desire to "cash out" in this property, exchanging the property is not an option for you to consider.

Given this scenario, the long-term capital gain of \$260,000 will cost you \$39,000 in capital gains taxes (assuming a 15 percent capital gains tax rate).

This will net you \$221,000, which is more than enough to pay off your

other mortgage. Since I don't know more about your particular situation, I would suggest that you contact a tax professional to see if there may be some way for you to lower your tax liability, such as selling other long-term investments that are currently capital losses that can offset some of the gain on this rental property.

As you can see, there is a price to pay to be successful in the real

estate market. Even so, you are much better off with the net proceeds of \$221,000 than otherwise.

Tom Hamilton, Ph.D., is associate professor at the Shenehon Center for Real Estate Education at the University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis. E-mail questions to: thamilton@stthomas.edu. Please include name, city and state.

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GMAC Real Estate

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- Serene setting
- Two bedrooms, one bath



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PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW BERKELEY LISTING!

OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2-4:30PM



A glorious traditional in North Berkeley with lovely views of San Francisco Bay! Cook's kitchen, master bedroom suite with views and a family room. Solar! 4 bedrooms, 3 baths

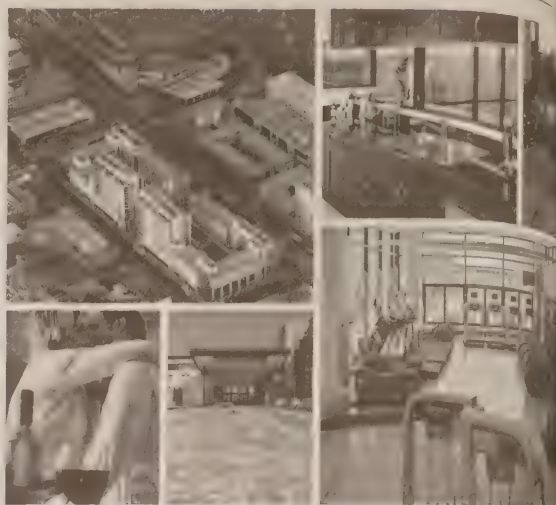
534 The Alameda, Berkeley
Offered at \$1,275,000



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A brand new lifestyle awaits you at The Beacon. You'll love the convenient gourmet Safeway, Borders, Starbucks and Wells Fargo Bank right downtown. You'll enjoy amenities including an outdoor heated pool, fitness center, clubhouse, dog run and parking for you and your guests. And you'll never get tired of the breathtaking City and Bay views.

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86 SEA VIEW \$7,450,000
This grand neo-classic Willis Polk estate w/ spacious formal rooms & fine architectural details. is surrounded by one of the most beautiful private gardens in the Bay Area. Angela Wei Grubb



393 HAMPTON RD. \$3,595,000
Nested among redwoods & impressive estates, this home was designed by Albert Farr & constructed by Alex Cederborg. Once in a lifetime opportunity. Anthony Riggins

191 SANDRINGHAM RD. \$2,600,000
A wonderful traditional home. 5BR/3.5BA. Stunning formal rooms + den, rumpus room & au pair suite. Great patio for entertaining. South Bay views. Michelle Winchester
120 CAPERTON AVE. \$1,695,000
A rare find! This elegant all level home welcomes you to sunny spaces and soaring ceilings. Private terrace for entertaining. Library, great office and cozy family room off the deck. Anian Pettit Tunney

109 ST. JAMES DR. \$1,232,000
Enjoy the beautiful park-like setting w/waterfall. This home has tremendous privacy, a charming front patio & peaceful deck. The flexible floorplan includes 3BR, large rumpus room & additional room for office. Mindy Scott

239 PARK VIEW AVENUE \$985,000
Lovingly restored Mediterranean w/original details. Arched windows & hardwood floors. Elegant terrace. Level-out to the deck & garden. 3BR/1.5BA. Anne Feste



100 ESTATES DRIVE \$1,375,000
Beautifully renovated by high-end finishes throughout, this 3+BR/2BA home lends itself to outdoor entertaining w/fountains, flowers, BBQ center & putting green. E. Dickson/L. McClain

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30

95 WESTMINSTER DRIVE \$2,175,000
Dramatic & sophisticated Claremont Pines home. Complete w/enchanting formal rooms, expansive kitchen w/breakfast room, family room, home office, wet-bar & 3-car garage. Terrace, gardens & pool. Debbi DiMaggio
5801 BUENA VISTA AVE. \$1,729,000
Fabulous light-filled Upper Rockridge home. Impeccably crafted w/the finest materials, elegant woodwork, marble fireplaces, high ceilings & hardwood floors. 4BR/3.5BA, family room, sun room, office, garden patio. Golden Gate views. Elizabeth Dickson



6040 CONTRA COSTA RD. \$1,675,000
Exceptional quality, design & details in this Upper Rockridge Mediterranean. 4BR/3.5BA (including 2 suites), hardwood floors, kitchen/family room, views & location! Tricia Swift

6241 CONTRA COSTA RD. \$1,650,000
BIG views on Rockridge cul-de-sac. Open floor plan, open to deck. New gourmet kitchen & bath. Sensational master suite, gameroom & hillside garden. Carolyn Jones

1183 SUNNYHILLS ROAD \$1,500,000
Elegant English Tudor, gourmet kitchen w/breakfast area, cozy den w/2nd fireplace, 3BR + sunroom, professionally landscaped gardens w/level lawn & play structure. Mary Merrick

83 CASTLE PARK WAY \$1,485,000
A stunning contemporary w/open floor plan there's space for everyone! 3+BR/3.5BA w/incredible master suite. Pool, sauna, spa & views on a huge lot! Sandra Vogl

9 WOODSIDE GLEN \$1,350,000
Be a part of the newly constructed Woodside Glen near Joaquin Miller Park & Montclair Village. Tudor style home w/arched passageways, gourmet kitchen & lovely level garden. 4BR/2.5BA. Mindy Scott

6434 REGENT STREET \$1,295,000
This architecturally grand brown shingle Rockridge Craftsman features box beams, built-ins & oak floors. The entry leads to a large living room & dining room. Doors from the dining room & kitchen/family room lead to the wisteria covered porch. 5BR/2BA. Ruth Frassetto

2144 MASTLANDS DRIVE \$949,000
Spacious & chic contemporary w/wonderful custom colors & details. Large au-pair or in-law. Master suite w/ deck access. Updated kitchen opens to seating area w/ fireplace. 3BR/3.5BA. Hope Broderick

5766 HARBORD DRIVE \$925,000
Spacious 4+BR/3.5BA home with beautiful San Francisco Bay views, a master suite with private deck, & a sunny family room off the kitchen. Dana Cohen



870 SUNNYHILLS ROAD \$899,000
A 1930's Crocker Highlands traditional w/3BR/2BA and a bonus room below. Beautifully landscaped garden with deck, lawn and patio area. Angela Wei Grubb

6047 SNAKE ROAD \$875,000
Bright & spacious & close to Montclair Village, schools & transportation. Open floor plan; hardwood floors; enclosed patio; decks & views; 3BR/2BA; au pair/in law/office suite down; large family/entertainment room. Tricia Swift



6815 OAKWOOD DRIVE \$825,000
An inviting level-in contemporary w/wonderful open floor plan, fabulous eat-in kitchen & private office. This 4BR/2.5BA is located just minutes from Montclair Village shops & schools. Dana Cohen

5734 CLAREMONT AVE \$795,000
Warm & inviting 5BR/2BA + large family room w/private entry. Generous, front porch, living & dining rooms w/box beam ceilings, wainscoting, whimsical hand painting, built-ins & lush private garden. Helene Barkin
452 HILLER DRIVE \$749,500
Vaulted ceilings & skylights enhance the spacious & open feeling of this 2+BR townhouse w/separate study. Move-in condition. Susanne Paul



5522 TAFT AVENUE \$745,000
Wonderfully situated in the best of Rockridge! This lovely home has been beautifully upgraded! There are 2 spacious BR, study, remodeled BA & kitchen, two fireplaces, garden & workshop. Faye Keogh

1751 E. 38TH STREET \$649,000
Beautiful 2BR/1BA home features an upgraded kitchen w/eat-in area, formal dining room, living room w/fireplace, plantation shutters & hardwood floors w/a private back garden. M. Lyons/K. Buchholz

4500 CLAREWOOD DRIVE \$599,000
Upper Rockridge townhome at Clarewood. 2BR/2.5BA in a lovely creekside setting. Living room has soaring ceilings & fireplace. Separate 2-car garage. Close to all transportation. Mavis Delacroix

260 CALDECOTT #124 \$499,000
A charming Parkwoods Condominium w/modern amenities & stylish architecture. This Montclair model features 2BR/2BA, an excellent kitchen, hardwood floors & is conveniently located close to restaurants, shopping & hiking trails. Adam Betta

4101 HOWE STREET #304 \$489,000
Bright and spacious 2BR/2BA condominium in sought-after building just steps away from all that Piedmont Avenue has to offer. Steve Michaelides

BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30

1039 AMITO DRIVE \$1,800,000
This home is beautifully appointed w/4BR/4.5BA, formal dining, large family room/au-pair quarters opening to terraced gardens, attached 2-car garage & Bay views! Masterful craftsmanship throughout. Bebe McRae

96 THE PLAZA DRIVE \$1,700,000
Extraordinary home, beautifully proportioned 5BR/3BA. Updated state-of-the-art kitchen opens to family room, formal living & dining room. Landscaped gardens w/deck & hot tub. Susie Schevill

669 EUCLID AVENUE \$1,685,000
Spectacular views of bridges, Bay & SF. Multiple deck & stone patios for entertaining. 4BR + nursery/3.5BA; hardwood floors & generous spaces. Detached home office. Easy access to campus. Ford/Plowright

6928 BRISTOL DRIVE \$1,185,000
Sophisticated & spacious 4BR + office/4BA. Perfect floorplan! Expansive eat-in kitchen/family room w/serene hill views. Elegant formal rooms. Fireplace. Terrace. For entertaining. Jill Carrigan

645 EUCLID AVENUE \$950,000
Amazing home on a huge property! 3BR/2.5BA, expansive living room, formal dining room, wonderful atrium opens to sunny patio & garden retreat, music room & Bay views. Lots of potential. Anne Van Dyke

2818 WEBSTER STREET \$950,000
Quiet Residential Street in Elmwood. 3+BR/2BA/Bonus room. Refinished hardwood floors. Excellent storage. Level yard. Garage. 2 blocks to College Ave. Convenient to UC Campus & BART. Chris Cohn

691 ENSENADA AVENUE \$869,000
Charming and light-filled Thousand Oaks 3BR/2BA home w/lovely remodeled kitchen, level-out fenced garden. Close to Solano Avenue & Kensington Circle shops & restaurants. Nancy Lehrkind

1339 GRIZZLY PEAK BLVD. \$695,000
Charming three bedroom, two bath home opening to sunny gardens. Attached two-car garage, Bay view, near Tilden Park and U.C. Campus. Bebe McRae

1379 DELAWARE STREET \$659,000
Lovely 2+BR/1+BA bungalow. Remodeled kitchen/bath. Living room w/fireplace & hardwood floors. Sunny garden. Great location near North Berkeley BART, 4th Street shops & Monterey Market. Jennifer Fickenschier

2030A BLAKE STREET \$575,000
Move right in to this easy-living 3BR/2BA condominium. Upgrades galore including kitchen & bath remodel, fresh paint, new carpets and more! Close to UC, Berkeley Bowl, Reel, BART. Don't miss! Nacio Brown

KENSINGTON, EL CERRITO & EMERYVILLE - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30

25 HIGHGATE COURT \$925,000
KENSINGTON. Sophisticated. Cul-de-sac location in great neighborhood. 3BR/2+BA. Beamed ceilings, open floorplan & lots of glass to enjoy the beautiful SF views. Dining deck off kitchen & lovely garden. Ruth Frassetto

PIEDMONT ESTATE \$4,989,000
The grand entry foyer sets the stage for what unfolds in this exquisite neo-classical inspired home. Spacious rooms, fine details. New state-of-the-art kitchen. Library & kitchen open to courtyard. J. Simmons/A. Tunney

BERKELEY COMPOUND \$3,700,000
Extraordinary family compound or fantastic investment opportunity! 4 separate residences amid lush gardens e/beautiful Bay views, hot tub, sauna & sports court. A world of its own that must be seen. Bebe McRae

OAKLAND HILLS \$3,750,000
Magnificent Mediterranean w/breathtaking panoramic view. 5BR, elevator, family room, game room, media room, library, wine cellar & sauna. Debra J. Dryden

BERKELEY HILLS \$2,250,000
This exceptional home offers maximum privacy & remarkable spaces! 3BR/3BA + studio apartment, office family room w/wetbar & decks B. McRae/P. Templeton

1500 PARK AVENUE \$659,000
EMERYVILLE. An amazing & spacious loft with a practical layout & bonus space. Great designer colors, lighting & details. 2+BR/2BA, fabulous kitchen. Award winning bldg, 2 prkg spaces, easy access to San Francisco. Judith Cain

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT

EL CERRITO HILLS \$1,695,000
Spectacular newer residence designed for lavish entertaining or relaxed everyday enjoyment. Enchanting views. 4BR/3.5BA including 2 master suites. Ruth Frassetto

PIEDMONT \$1,695,000
A level contemporary w/an enchanting front garden & spectacular Bay views. Gracious formal rooms, eat-in kitchen, 3BR & office/den, 1BR/1BA & rumpus room w/private entrance located below. Mindy Scott

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,629,900
Level-in to an all level home with sensational panoramic Bay views. An open floor plan, huge wrap around deck & spa, 5BR (two with separate entrance), 4BA & 3-car garage. Great location close to Claremont Hotel. Debra J. Dryden

BERKELEY HILLS \$1,550,000
Berkeley retreat w/2BR/3BA, large family room, expansive studio opening to landscaped garden w/swimming pool. 2-car garage. Near Tilden Park. Bebe McRae

645 NORVELL STREET \$585,000
EL CERRITO. Charming California Classic w/detached studio in the beautifully manicured garden has 2BR/1.5BA & family room, well proportioned rooms & light streaming in large windows. Helene Barkin

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,550,000
Luxury living w/maximum privacy! Architect designed 3+BR/3.5BA retreat above the Claremont Resort. 3-car garage, canyon views, exceptional finishes! Bebe McRae

KENSINGTON \$1,250,000
Spectacular views! Quiet cul-de-sac & sophisticated style w/3BR/2BA, large office, sunroom/workshop, attached 2-car garage. Close to Kensington School. Bebe McRae

PIEDMONT \$949,000
Tranquil creekside setting in coveted Wildwood Gardens. Contemporary w/ hardwood floors, 3BR/2.5BA & + room w/separate entry & peek of the Bay. Debra Dryden

KENSINGTON LOT \$1,700,000
Spectacular lot w/gorgeous views. Faye Keogh
GARDEN DR. LOT \$650,000
Exceptional Kensington building site w/view! Tricia Swift

Bruss

FROM PAGE B16

bought the same \$100,000 rental house for \$10,000 cash down payment, obtained \$90,000 financing, and it appreciates 5 percent in market value during the next 12 months. Now, thanks to the magic of leverage, you earn a 50 percent return on your invested dollars (presuming the rent income pays the expenses).

Are you excited yet? Well, you should be.

An additional rental-house advantage is the depreciation tax deduction to shelter the rental income from taxation. Depreciation is a non-cash "paper loss" tax deduction for estimated wear, tear and obsolescence.

Still another advantage is you can deduct up to \$25,000 of your real-

estate "passive loss" deductions from your other taxable ordinary income, such as job salary, interest, and dividends if your annual adjusted gross income (AGI) is \$100,000 or less. If your AGI exceeds \$100,000, the deductibility of investment property tax losses gradually phases out to zero when you reach \$150,000 AGI.

But unused rental-property tax losses can be saved or "suspended" for future tax use. However, if you are a qualified real estate professional, such as a real estate broker, there is no limit to the rental-property tax loss you can deduct against other ordinary income.

Disadvantages

While your sound, well-located, rental-house investment is hopefully appreciating in market value, there might be some potential problems to anticipate.

The biggest rental-house prob-

lem I've encountered is not being able to obtain enough rent to pay the mortgage, property taxes, insurance, repairs, and other expenses.


Local markets for rental houses vary widely. The national standard for rent used to be a rental house should command at least 1 percent of its market value in monthly rent.

For example, using our rental house purchased for \$100,000, it should rent for at least \$1,000 per month. Inexpensive rental houses often meet this 1 percent rent standard. However, investors in more expensive rental houses usually are unable to obtain rent that meets this 1 percent per month profitability test.

The result can be negative cash flow. That means the rental income is less than the expenses for the house.

See BRUSS, Page B22

Open Sun. 2-4:30pm



83 Selborne Dr. • Piedmont


3900 sq.ft. traditional home w/stunning S.F. Bay-views! 4bd/3bth w/office, large game room, & possible au-pair set-up. Close to shopping & in top rated Piedmont schools.

Offered at \$1,425,000

COLDWELL BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Suzi O'Brien (925)286-8520
Finola Fellner (925)890-7807

email: suzi.obrien@camoves.com
finola.fellner@camoves.com



Coming Soon-Alameda Gold Coast Neighborhood
1626-1628 Alameda Avenue



Impressive Turn of the Century Colonial Revival

Welcome to the perfect set up. Built in 1909 as a large family compound, this 4,416 square foot home is a spacious owner occupied duplex with income or single family home with room for the entire extended family. Resplendent with pocket doors, wainscoting, hardwood floors, coved ceilings and built in cabinets. The elegant dining rooms and parlors take you back in time to a grand epoch. Lots of space and large rooms give you the feeling of comfort. Step inside and fall in love with this gorgeous home. Finished attic and half basement. Serene bricked-in courtyard garden.

\$1,195,000

Gallagher & Lindsey Inc. REALTORS®

MICHELE POULTER (LA GRONE)
BROKER ASSOCIATE/REALTOR®

MicheleP@GallagherandLindsey.com **510.909.7465**

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING - HIDDEN TREASURE!

OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1-5PM

You won't want to miss this pristine, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home in the desirable N & E area of Richmond. This home is located on a double lot and features a gourmet kitchen, study/den, spacious dining room, 2 fireplaces, hardwood floors, and a fabulous, landscaped private garden. Must See!



661 34th Street, Richmond
Offered at \$559,000

Carol Crosby
415.760.5023

ccrosby@pacunion.com
www.carolcrosby.com

CLAREMONT PINES

OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2-4:30PM

Lovely columned Colonial in prestigious Claremont Pines, the Bel Aire of Oakland. Grand formal rooms, chef's eat-in kitchen, gorgeous landscaped level yard and gardens. Four bedrooms, two and one half baths.



6021 Acacia Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$2,190,000

Dee Knowland
510.338.1318

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate


www.pacunion.com
www.DeeKnowlandRealty.com

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

ROCKRIDGE STORYBOOK NEIGHBORHOOD

OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 & 9, 2-4:30PM


Welcome to one of Oakland's most picturesque neighborhoods! This 1926 "Storybook" style home was built with all the charm of yesteryear - rooms full of light, hardwood floors, fireplace, breakfast nook. There are 3 bedrooms, two-plus baths, a nice level yard and a comfortable meander to College Avenue, BART, Chabot School, and all the best of city living. Write your own chapter in this delightful Storybook!



5818 Clover Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$720,000

Joan Dark
510.338.1316

SOLD!



10 FAIRVIEW AVENUE, PIEDMONT

Said the happy buyers, "Debi knows Piedmont, and that's how you get the best house. Her knowledge and sensitivity in structuring the deal made it possible for us to get much more than we were expecting at the price, and the sellers were happy, too. Her creativity made it all possible."

Isn't it time you called Debi?

DEBI FITZGERRELL, ASSOCIATE BROKER
510-338-1306 ♦ dfitzgerrell@pacunion.com ♦ www.dfitzgerrell.com

COMING SOON!



407 HILLSIDE COURT, PIEDMONT

Stunningly remodeled! Five bedrooms, 4.5 baths, a chef's dream kitchen opening to a sun-filled family room and solarium, with sweeping bay and city views. Huge master suite with fireplace and remodeled marble bath -and more views. Approximately 6,000 square feet in all. Showings start October 7. Call now-and go to dfitzgerrell.com for more information.


DEBI FITZGERRELL, ASSOCIATE BROKER
510-338-1306 ♦ dfitzgerrell@pacunion.com ♦ www.dfitzgerrell.com

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

SOLD IN MONTCLAIR IN JUST 14 DAYS!

6120 Westover Drive, Oakland ~ Offered at \$849,000

The home that belongs to this view had only one owner in 50 years and needed some work to get it ready for market. Working with the seller using my energy, experience & resources the house was ready in no time. The seller could not believe how easy I made the process. If you're thinking about buying, selling, or just curious about the market, please give me a call.



CARLA BUFFINGTON
510.338.1367
www.carlabuffington.com

EXCEPTIONAL CLIENT CARE BEFORE AND AFTER EACH TRANSACTION

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING - OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2-4:30PM

Exceptionally charming traditional home located in one of Oakland's favorite neighborhoods. Beautifully updated five bedroom, three bath home with a chef's kitchen/family room and a wonderfully landscaped lawn and patio.



5845 Amy Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$1,395,000

Keith Tollas
510.338.1382

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW ROCKRIDGE LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2-5PM



5935 Manchester Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$2,800,000

Wonderful Traditional rebuilt after the "fire storm." Great construction detail and effort has been put into this lovely 4+BR/4+BA home. Fabulous gardens with waterfall and ponds designed by Landscape Architect Harland Hand. Master bedroom with fireplace, rumpus room with fireplace and soda fountain, separate library, possible au-pair, sports court.

NEW ALBANY LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2-4PM



1068 Ordway Avenue, Albany
Offered at \$685,000

Beautifully maintained and upgraded 1920s bungalow in prime neighborhood! Gracious room sizes, two bedrooms, and one updated bath, stylish kitchen, breakfast room/home office, spacious deck, sunny garden. Newer roof, sewer, drainage. Near Solano Avenue, Northbrae and Westbrae shopping.

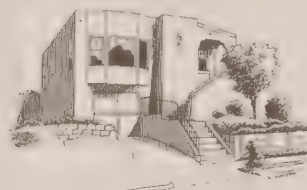
NEW PIEDMONT LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2-4:30PM



910 Kingston Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$879,000

Delightful, brown shingle craftsman home with charming architectural detailing and hill views. It's features include a living room with brick fireplace, a formal dining room with box beam ceilings, a spacious kitchen with eat-in, pantry and convenient laundry area, three bedrooms (including master suite with deck), two bathrooms, workshop, off street parking, plenty of storage and sunny back garden. To view full details and interior photos of this home visit: www.910KingstonPiedmont.com.

NEW FRUITVALE LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1-5PM



2507 24th Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$459,000

Enjoy South Bay views in this sun-drenched Fruitvale District 3 bedroom, 2 bath home that boasts beautiful refinished hardwood floors and designer colors. Enjoy your morning cup of coffee, or invite friends over for a large BBQ in the expansive newly landscaped yard complete with large patio, newer fence, newer plantings and a wonderful lawn! A truly gorgeous place to call home. Online tour at www.2507-24thAvenue.com.

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30



PIEDMONT \$5,250,000
128 INDIAN RD.

These gates lead to a classic English Tudor on approximately 1.4 useable acres. Public rooms include a ballroom and library. 11BR/7.5BA. A truly a kind opportunity. Robyn Mohr x1310



ROCKRIDGE \$2,800,000
735 MANCHESTER AVE.

New Listing! Wonderful Traditional rebuilt after the "fire storm." 4+BR/4+BA, rumpus room, library, possible au-pair. Fabulous gardens designed by Harland Hand. Francis Heath x1357

CLAREMONT PINES \$2,190,000
6021 ACACIA AVE.

Majestic columned Colonial. Gracious & grand formal rooms, chef's kitchen, lovely professional landscaped level gardens, even a widow's walk with incredible views. Dee Knowland x1318



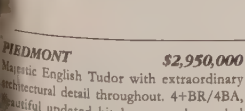
UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,795,000
2552 BUENA VISTA AVE.

Gorgeous 5BR/4BA custom home built in 1999 & updated in 2005. Gracious formal living, dramatic master suite, gourmet kitchen, decks, garden, views. Dee Knowland x1318



MONTCLAIR \$1,699,000
2707 CAMINO LENADA

Fabulous new home on a very secluded cul-de-sac. Only two blocks from schools. Four-plus bedrooms, three baths. Joanna Gould x1346



PIEDMONT \$2,950,000

Majestic English Tudor with extraordinary architectural detail throughout. 4+BR/4BA, beautiful updated kitchen, wood paneled library, family room and separate guest suite. Georgia Cornell x1325

PIEDMONT \$1,549,000

Gorgeous Mediterranean villa set on beautifully landscaped grounds. 3 bedroom suites, 3 baths, beautiful original details, wonderful eat-in chef's kitchen, park-like terraces and gardens. Fritz Hochfeller x1348

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,495,000
911 LARKSPUR RD.

Fabulous & spacious 4+BR/4BA traditional on prime cul-de-sac. Serene, park-like setting at the end of street lined with gorgeous homes. Elegant details. David Ichikawa x1331



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,395,000
5845 AMY DR.

Exceptionally charming 5BR/3BA home on a great street. Updated throughout w/chef's kitchen & family room w/fireplace. Beautifully landscaped garden & patio. Keith Tollas x1382



PIEDMONT \$1,295,000
958 KINGSTON AVE.

Charming 4BR/2BA Mediterranean with many original details restored. Updated kitchen & baths, hardwood floors, formal dining. French doors to yard. Ashley O'Neill x1368



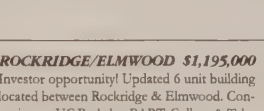
BERKELEY \$1,275,000
534 THE ALAMEDA

New Listing! A glorious traditional in North Berkeley with lovely views of San Francisco Bay! Cook's kitchen, master bedroom suite with views and a family room. Solar 4BR/3BA. Erika Celestine x1370



GRAND AVENUE \$995,000
743-743A WALKER AVE.

Wonderful craftsman two-flat duplex. Each has 2BR/2BA, updated kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, laundry & garage. Great location. Kathy Flynn x1317



ROCKRIDGE/ELMWOOD \$1,195,000

Investor opportunity! Updated 6 unit building located between Rockridge & Elmwood. Convenient to UC Berkeley, BART, College & Telegraph Ave. shopping & restaurants. Call agent for showing times. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

HILLCREST ESTATES \$1,180,000

Six bedroom, four bath 1960 all level contemporary in near original condition on 1+ acre. Copper & brushed stainless accents. Large fenced yard with lawn. 2+ car attached garage. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



MONTCLAIR \$979,000
6848 ARMOUR DR.

Sunny contemporary with Traditional flair. Serene setting with SF & Bay views. Dramatic rooms, cathedral beamed ceiling, wonderful outdoor spaces. 4BR/3.5BA. Teri Carlisle x1305



MONTCLAIR \$899,000
1865 MANZANITA DR.

Sophisticated multi-level home with bay views. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, vaulted ceilings, updated kitchen, terraced grass areas, decks, fruit trees. Michelle Vasey x1359



PIEDMONT \$879,000
910 KINGSTON AVE.

New Listing! Delightful brown shingle 3BR/2BA craftsman home with charming architectural detailing & hill views. Formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, sunny garden. Sheila Gallagher x1383

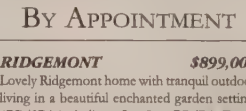


ROCKRIDGE \$720,000
5818 CLOVER DR.

New Listing! Charming 1926 "Storybook" style 3BR/2.5BA home. Light-filled rooms, hardwood floors, fireplace, breakfast nook & level yard. Near College Avenue & BART. Joan Dark x1316

ALBANY \$685,000
1068 ORDWAY ST.

New Listing! Beautifully maintained & upgraded bungalow! Gracious room sizes, 2BR/1BA, stylish kitchen, breakfast room/home office, deck, garden. Newer roof, sewer, drainage. Lori Anzi x1330



RIDGEMONT \$899,000

Lovely Ridgmont home with tranquil outdoor living in a beautiful enchanted garden setting. 4BR/3BA including a first floor BR/BA. Eat-in kitchen, family room. Robyn Mohr x1310

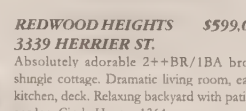
PIEDMONT \$725,000

Fixer in prime central Piedmont location! Two story, three bedroom brown shingle; currently not habitable. Great opportunity! Georgia Cornell x1325



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$599,000
4715 DAVENPORT AVE.

Charming 3BR/1BA home with dynamite Bay views. Living and dining room lead out to a great deck and expansive yard. Updated kitchen. Plus space. Sandi Klemmer x1314.



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$599,000
3339 HERRIER ST.

Absolutely adorable 2+BR/1BA brown shingle cottage. Dramatic living room, eat-in kitchen, deck. Relaxing backyard with patio & garden. Cindy Houts x1364

OAKLAND \$595,000
4027-29 LINCOLN AVE.

Nice Traditional-style duplex. 2+BR/1BA upstairs and a 2BR/1BA downstairs. Both units have decks. Yard, separate storage and laundry area. Francis Heath x1357



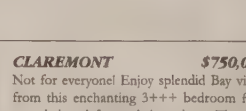
NORTH OAKLAND \$579,000
664 60th St.

New Listing! Fantastic two story home with plenty of period details. This is the home dreams are made of. Super-convenient location at the Oakland/Berkeley border. Tom Nemeth 652-6537



EL CERRITO \$569,000
615 NORVELL ST.

Charming 3BR/2BA home built in 1946. Lovingly restored & updated. Freshly painted, hardwood floors, updated kitchen & bath. Lovely garden. Bob & Carolyn Nelson x1345



CLAREMONT \$750,000

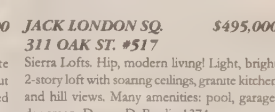
Not for everyone! Enjoy splendid Bay views from this enchanting 3+BR bedroom fixer on a beloved footpath just above The Claremont. Berkeley mail, Oakland taxes. Gini Erck x1339

TEMESCAL \$575,000

A sweet and stylish craftsman in a lovely garden setting on a warm and friendly street in trendy Temescal. Two bedrooms, one bath, kitchen/family room. Gini Erck x1339

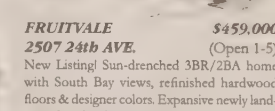
NORTH OAKLAND \$499,000
844 55th ST.

Simply beautiful & lovingly restored bungalow with extra spaces & detached garage/workshop. Convenient to both Rockridge & Emeryville shopping. Tom Nemeth 510-652-6537



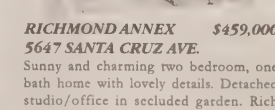
JACK LONDON SQ. \$495,000
311 OAK ST. #517

Sierra Lofts. Hip, modern living! Light, bright 2-story loft with soaring ceilings, granite kitchen and hill views. Many amenities: pool, garage, doorman. Donna DeBardi x1374



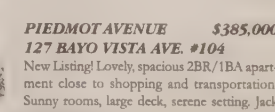
FRUITVALE \$459,000
2507 24th AVE.

(Open 1-5) New Listing! Sun-drenched 3BR/2BA home with South Bay views, refinished hardwood floors & designer colors. Expansive newly landscaped yard with patio. Jennie A. Flanagan x1354



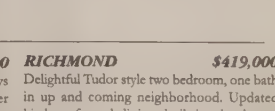
RICHMOND ANNEX \$459,000
5647 SANTA CRUZ AVE.

Sunny and charming two bedroom, one bath home with lovely details. Detached studio/office in secluded garden. Rich Gould x1347



OAKLAND HILLS \$410,000
7572 MOUNTAIN BLVD. #3

Charming 2BR/1.5BA condominium in a convenient location. 2-story open floor plan, wall to wall carpeting, in-unit laundry, deck and patio. Attached garage. Lori Lombardo x1377



PIEDMONT AVENUE \$385,000
127 BAY VISTA AVE. #104

New Listing! Lovely, spacious 2BR/1BA apartment close to shopping and transportation. Sunny rooms, large deck, serene setting. Jack McPhail x1336

ALBANY \$369,000
850 STANNAGE AVE. #1

Rare find in Albany! Delightful 1BR condo near Solano Avenue shopping, restaurants & coffee. Freshly painted, hardwood floors, big closets. Eat-in kitchen. Leslie Easterday x1363

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FROM PAGE B20

However, many rental-house investors can handle a mild case of negative cash flow. They reason the house is appreciating in market value at a faster rate than the negative cash flow. If the investor can afford to pay the negative cash flow, perhaps \$100 to \$500 per month, rapidly appreciating rental houses can be a great investment.

If you can't afford the negative cash flow each month, investing in rental houses might not be a smart investment for you. Instead, you might wish to purchase bargain-priced fixer-upper houses for quick resale. That's called "flipping" instead of "keeping" for long-term rental-house investment.

The primary rental-house disadvantage

But the primary disadvantage of rental-house investing is known as "tenants and toilets." In other words, property management can be the biggest drawback of owning rental houses.

Over my 35 years of investing in rental houses, apartment buildings, and other types of properties, I've had my share of mostly wonderful tenants who enabled me to earn substantial profits, plus a few "bad apple" rotten tenants.

Which ones do I remember most? Which tenants do I discuss with my fellow investment property owners? The "bad apples," of course. We never talk about our boring, uninteresting, great tenants.

Some rental-house investors think they will solve the "tenants and toilets" management problem by hiring a professional property manager. But the big drawback is most so-called professional managers charge at least 10 percent of the gross rent. The result is little or zero cash flow.

Long-distance property management is even worse. To illustrate, I recently talked with the president of our local property investor's club. He and his wife own several rental houses about 1,000 miles away.

We commiserated about his "lousy" property manager who can't keep his rental houses rented. I hated to remind him that nobody has as great an interest in property managing his property as the owner. That's why I don't recommend long distance rental-house investments.

Why invest in rental houses rather than apartments?

At this point, you're probably thinking apartment buildings might be better investments than single-family rental houses.

But there is a huge drawback to apartment building and other commercial property investments. They usually don't appreciate in market value as rapidly as single-family house investments.

The reason is apartments and commercial building investments are valued by their "cap rate." That means net operating income divided by the property value.

For example, suppose a small apartment building or commercial property produces \$10,000 annual net operating income (excluding mortgage payments) and its seller is asking \$100,000 for the property. That is a 10 percent "cap rate." Grab it! That's a bargain.

Instead, suppose the seller of the same property is asking \$150,000. Now the "cap rate" re-

turn on cash sales price drops to a 7 percent capitalization rate.

The rule is the higher the cap rate, the lower the property value. Your goal when buying apartment or commercial property should be to buy at as high a cap rate as possible.

By contrast, single-family rental houses have nothing to do with a "cap rate." Regardless of rental income, sound, well-located rental houses frequently appreciate in market value at the same rate as nearby owner-occupied houses. For this reason, rental houses are usually a much better investment than are apartment buildings and commercial properties.

An extra tax benefit of owning a rental house

For many investors, a rental-house investment is the first step to pyramiding their way to a real estate fortune.

Thanks to the tax-deferred exchange benefits of Internal Revenue Code 1031, it is possible, after the rental house has appreciated in market value, to make a tax-deferred trade up for another investment or business property.

However, your personal residence is not eligible for an IRC 1031 tax-deferred exchange. For full details on tax-deferred exchange benefits, especially "Starker delayed exchanges," please consult your tax adviser.

Summary

Rental-house investments can be more profitable than your principal residence because the rent from your tenants will pay all or most of the expenses while the rental house, probably, appreciates in market value. But there are potential drawbacks such as managing the tenants and understanding that long term profits come from appreciation in market value, not from the rental income.

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Beautifully framed by mature greenery and lush landscaping, 5412 Normandie is a beautiful and spacious family residence in the desirable Maxwell Park neighborhood.

Built in 1924 with approximately 1,192 square feet, this house offers the convenience of three bedrooms including one master suite, one and one-half baths, formal living

room, dining room, a generous kitchen with a separate breakfast room, a large deck, access to a laundry closet, and an ample carport.

all of this home is the added bonus of a landscaped rear garden and

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It's all in the details, and Rose Garden is full of them. This spectacular master-planned community of four distinct single-family home neighborhoods in Brentwood boasts seven neighborhood parks, scenic trails and a nearly four-acre central park that includes a rose garden, gazebo and swim center. Not only are the homes beautifully designed, but they feature high speed connectivity to the Web and the latest building technologies. All this, and a location within minutes of Marsh Creek trails, exciting new shops and fine schools. Visit soon and see why everything's coming up roses in Brentwood.



• Central rose garden park

• High speed Internet connectivity

• 7 Neighborhood parks

• Gazebo and picnic areas

• Swim center

• Trail system

Rose Garden

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Pulte Homes
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approximate square footage, may vary.

Home and gardening notes

BY MARY BETH
BRECKENRIDGE
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

WHAT'S NEW: TARGET OFFERS EMERGENCY KIT

A new ready-made emergency kit is making it easier to be prepared.

With winter and its inevitable storms approaching, Target and the American Red Cross have teamed up to produce the

First Aid and Emergency Preparedness Starter Kit, with enough supplies for four people. Items in the kit include flashlights, batteries, blankets, gloves, ponchos, a radio, first-aid supplies and a first-aid and emergency-preparedness guide from the Red Cross.

The kit also contains a list of additional supplies, such as food, water and personal items, that should be purchased separately.

The kit sells for \$29.99 and is available at Target stores and on its Web site, www.target.com. For every kit purchased through Aug. 31, 2006, Target will donate \$10 to the Red Cross.

Free forum, seminar on tap

KANE & ASSOCIATES

The public is invited to a free real estate open forum and seminar. Experienced professionals will be on hand to answer your questions. Some of the topics to be covered include:

- Timing and logistics of selling one property and buying another;
- First-time buyers - where do you start
- One-hundred percent financing loan programs
- How important are your credit scores?
- So you want to remodel your new house

Presenters will be Pat Colburn, Realtor with Kane & Associates, Randy Wong, senior mortgage lending officer with AmeriMac First Mortgage and Thomas Means, Retired General Contractor.

The seminar will be held from 10 to 1130 a.m., tomorrow at Alliance Title Co, 2408 Central Avenue, in Nevada.

Please RSVP to Pat Colburn at 510-865-3460 or patzart@ix.netcom.com.

NEW LISTING • \$729,000 • BERKELEY

Artist Retreat with Income

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1328 - 1330

Martin Luther King Jr. Way

Gourmet Ghetto Two ++ bedroom Craftsman with a bright, remodeled kitchen & a one bedroom rental with garden views. Many extra spaces - art studio tucked away in a huge sunny, kid-friendly garden, a detached two-car garage as well as 3rd workshop space & an office/umpus room in the main house to boot. Both units feature lovely wood mouldings & floors, built-in cabinetry & fireplaces. This extremely versatile property retains its original internal staircase to combine to future single home. Close to Fat Apples, The Cheeseboard, Peets, Montezuma Market, Solano Avenue & BART.

Stina Charles-Harris 510.527.2700 x 23 Office 510.282.6201 Cell

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Exceptional quality, design and details in this elegant Upper Rockridge Mediterranean. Four generously proportioned bedrooms, three and one half baths (including two suites), hardwood floors, kitchen/family room, views & location!

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Duplex: Luxurious 3+BR, 2BA with
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Flexible space: Franklin School
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647 56TH STREET

\$699,000

North Oakland. Attractive four bedroom, three bath home. 2,323 Square foot, huge walk-in closets. Between Shattuck and Dover.

Heidi Kearsley 531-7000 x295



5829 COLTON

\$669,000

Montclair. Spacious mid-century home with tranquil setting and bay view! Upper level with two bedroom, one bath and bonus room, gorgeous refinished hardwood floors, charming eat-in kitchen. Lower level with separate entrance with one bedroom, one bath and large family room - great for au-pair or home office, large deck and patio plus backyard for gardening!

Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228

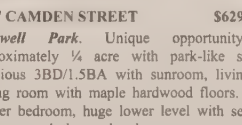


41 ELYSIAN FIELDS DRIVE

\$640,000

Sequoia Highlands. 3BD/2BA level in Rancher, very private in a sylvan setting. Great patio area to enjoy the serenity. New carpet, fresh paint, many upgrades, very desired area.

Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

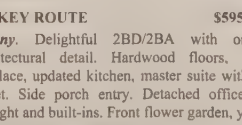


5147 CAMDEN STREET

\$629,000

Maxwell Park. Unique opportunity on approximately 1/4 acre with park-like setting. Spacious 3BD/1.5BA with sunroom, living and dining room with maple hardwood floors. Large master bedroom, huge lower level with separate entrance and three plus bonus rooms - great for home business, artist/music studio, family room and more. Potential to build 2nd unit on this large double lot.

Anne Manley 531-7000 x277

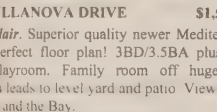


822 KEY ROUTE

\$595,000

Albany. Delightful 2BD/2BA with original architectural detail. Hardwood floors, corner fireplace, updated kitchen, master suite with walk closet. Side porch entry. Detached office with skylight and built-ins. Front flower garden, yard.

Antoine Pirson 531-7000 x270



175 VILLANOVA DRIVE

\$1,575,000

Montclair. Superior quality newer Mediterranean with perfect floor plan! 3BD/3.5BA plus office and playroom. Family room off huge eat-in kitchen leads to level yard and patio. Views of Mt. Diablo and the Bay.

Mary Neuburger 531-7000 x251

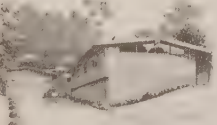


5132 COCHRANE AVENUE

\$1,395,000

Rockridge, Upper. Huge price reduction on this sophisticated home with extra large master suite. Adjoining sitting room could be 4th BD. 2.5BA, intensive maple cabinets in kitchen which overlooks breakfast nook and family room, formal dining room with wet bar, elegant living room, home theater, air conditioning, 2-car garage, hot tub, pretty hill views. Over 3560 sq. ft. of quality construction. Virtual tour at www.wellsandbennett.com.

Chris Christensen 531-7000 x242

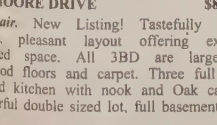


6727 PINEHAVEN

\$1,150,000

Montclair. Unique property in Tahoe setting. Four bedrooms, three bath all on one level. Four car garage with full bath and utilities. 1/3 acre.

Fred Perkins 531-7000 x282



6833 MOORE DRIVE

\$895,000

Montclair. New Listing! Tastefully painted interior, pleasant layout offering excellent separated space. All 3BD are large with hardwood floors and carpet. Three full baths. Wonderful kitchen with nook and Oak cabinets. Updated double sized lot, full basement, 2-car garage.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



5611 FLORENCE TERRACE

\$729,000

Montclair Hills. New Listing! Traditional home set back from street, large living room, formal dining room, large eat-in kitchen with built-ins, kitchen opens to patio. 3BD/1BA, 2-car attached garage with inside access. Plenty of off street parking.

Java Bhimani 531-7000 x289



4419 CAMDEN STREET

\$549,000

Maxwell Park. Spacious mid-century home on quiet cul-de-sac! Three bedroom, one and a half bath with mstr suite, large living room with fireplace and view, gorgeous hardwood floors, large "retro" eat-in kitchen, two-car garage, great patio and terraced gardens.

Margaret Acevedo 531-7000 x244



2845 MODESTO

\$549,000

Maxwell Park. Spacious charming three bedroom, two bath gorgeous refinished hardwood floors, tastefully remodeled eat-in kitchen, large master suite with panoramic bay view and French doors to deck, wonderful landscaped back yard with great decks and fruit trees.

Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228

2344 90TH AVENUE

\$479,000

Oakland/MacArthur. Lovely three plus bedroom, one bath home - unique three level design on corner lot. Dining room, laundry room, fireplace in living room. Fenced backyard with lots of fruit trees. Spacious one car garage with many amenities.

Rita Robinson 531-7000 x241



2818 ATWELL

\$479,000

Fruitvale. 1903 Queen Anne Victorian on great street! Living room and dining room with coved ceilings and built-ins. 2BD/1BA, bonus room for office or den, large updated kitchen and breakfast room, full basement, 2-car garage.

Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292



4032 BAYO STREET

\$429,000

Laurel. Adorable 2BD home with 1BA, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, cozy yard, laundry room and garage.

Nicolette Bot 531-7000 x261



389 BELMONT STREET #203

\$349,000

Adams Point. 1BD/1BA fabulous corner unit with wonderful windows for light. Lovely custom shutters in the BD. New vinyl and wall/wall carpet, in unit laundry.

Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238



407 ORANGE STREET #210

\$325,000

Adams Point. 1BD/1BA unit, over 900 sq. ft. Updated kitchen and bath with granite kitchen and new appliances, new carpet and vinyl, fresh paint and large patio area for entertaining and plants.

Teri L. Lester 531-7000 x262



500 VERNON STREET #115

\$325,000

Rose Garden. One bedroom, one bath, lovely new wood floors, new appliances and carpet, fresh paint. Near all public transportation and shopping. Great complex with exercise room, pool and sauna.

Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

BY APPOINTMENT

EIGHT UNITS DOWNTOWN

\$1,575,000

Oakland. Top location; 8th & Madison, ground level 3BR, large sunny 2BRs. 4-1BRs, + studio. Tenants pay all utilities.

Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

\$1,300,000

Temescal. Three buildings on one lot. Two SFR homes each with 3BD/1BA, hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, fireplace, garage and full basement. Also a triplex in rear two 1BD/half BA and a studio with a 1/2 BA, in great location.

Beth DeAtley 531-7006 x234

MARVELOUS FIVE UNIT

\$938,000

Glennview. In desirable area. Great rents, one unit to be vacant at close of escrow. Five parking spaces PCR #10K. Laundry room, common spa.

Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292

NORTH OAKLAND DUPLEX

\$825,000

North Oakland. Near UC Berkeley and College Ave. Both units are 3BD/2BA with new kitchens, paint, roof, etc.

Anne Bruff 531-7006 x234

DOWNTOWN OAKLAND 4 PLEX

\$825,000

Downtown. Mix use Victorian. Good use for law, medical, business offices or residential mix use. Updated electrical. Can deliver vacant.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

CHARMING SPLIT LEVEL VICTORIAN FARMHOUSE

\$695,000

North Berkeley. This cozy home has 3BD/2.5BA an eat-in kitchen, dining room opening onto a private deck with a hot tub a detached garage and basement on a corner lot in great neighborhood.

Beth DeAtley 531-7006 x234

5416 BROADWAY #2

\$519,000

Rockridge. Great location! Sophisticated 2BD/2BA in 3 unit building! Stylish colors, living and dining room with Pergo floors, designer kitchen with granite counters, remodeled tile BA, fabulous private deck, garage and driveway pkg space, close to BART, shopping and restaurants!

Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228

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\$349,000	955 Shorepoint Ct. 300	1BD/1.25 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
	So. Shore	510-814-4869	Harbor Bay Realty
		Catherine Blerwith	
\$150,000	1170 9th Street #14	1BD/1BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
		510-519-5485	Kane & Associates
		John Bergman	
\$359,000	1825 Shoreline Dr. #211	1BD/1 BA	Sun 2-4
		510-333-8897	Alameda Realty
		Eileen Walker	
\$419,000	2035 Otis Dr. F	2BD/1BA	Sun 2-4
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		Steve Cressy	
\$425,000	2416 Marti Rae Ct	1BD/1 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
	Central	510-814-4802	Harbor Bay Realty
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\$425,000	950 Shorepoint Ct. 308	2BD/2BA	Sun 2-4
	So. Shore	510-814-4865	Harbor Bay Realty
		Lena Sazo	
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\$499,000	2111 Lincoln Ave.	DUPLEX	Sun 2-4
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\$588,000	1006 Taylor Ave.	2BD/1BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
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\$595,000	1050 Fontana	3BD/2.5BA	Sun 2-4
		510-469-6324	Kane & Associates
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\$595,000	1804 Pacific Ave	2BD/1 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
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		Eileen Walker / Jim Mangiapane	
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		Nina Belle Zamora	
\$599,000	2066 Encinal Ave.	2BD/2BA	Sun 2:30-4:30
	Central	510-814-4816	Harbor Bay Realty
		Nina Belle Zamora	
\$599,000	2511 Eagle Avenue	2+BD/2BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
	Central	510-747-1620	Gallagher & Lindsey
		Moon Tam	
\$599,000	2523 Webb Ave.	2BD/1BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
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		L.L. Jepsen/J. Goodman	
\$615,000	246 Beach Rd.	3BD/2BA	Open 1-4
		510-915-2277	Coldwell Banker
		Cathy Schulteis	
\$618,000	6 Courageous Ct.	2BD/2BA	Sun 2-4
		415-238-0152	Kane & Associates
		Jason Bryley	
\$629,000	1127 Mound Street	2 BD/1 BA	Sun 2-4
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		Chris Price	
\$629,000	1713 Oak Street	3+BD/1.5 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
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\$669,000	3010 Otis Dr.	3BD/2BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
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\$678,000	1806 Everett St.	Duplex+	Sun 2-4
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		Karen Manuel	

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\$1,070,000	2057 Alameda Ave.	4BD/3BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
	Central	510-814-4888	Harbor Bay Realty
		Steve Sorensen	
\$1,170,000	2034 San Antonio Ave.	4BD/2BA+Conn.	Sat/Sun 2-4
	Central	510-814-4815	Harbor Bay Realty
		Nancy Gordon	
\$1,175,000	1200 Ballena Blvd.	2 BD/2.5 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
	West End	510-814-4859/814-4891	Harbor Bay Realty
		K. Wellman/G. Muhr	
\$1,195,000	1626-1628 Alameda Ave.	DUPLEX	Sat/Sun 2-4
	Gold Coast	510-909-7465	Gallagher & Lindsey
		Michele Poulter	
\$1,298,000	1520 Central Ave.	4 BD/2.25 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
	Central	510-814-4839/814-4714	Harbor Bay Realty
		B. Douglas / S. Bolton	
\$1,298,000	1520 Central Ave	4BD/3BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
	Central	510-814-4839	Harbor Bay Realty
		Bill Douglas	
\$1,590,000	1906 Alameda Ave.	3+BD/2+BA	Sun 2-4
	Central	510-748-1138/748-1119/748-1195	Gallagher & Lindsey
		D. Hankel/L.Perry/A.Ramirez	
\$2,250,000	221 Creedon Cir.	4 BD/4 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4
	Harbor Bay Isle	510-814-4826	Harbor Bay Realty
		Donnacliff Williams	
\$2,380,000	26 Castlebar Pl.	4 BD/5.5 BA	Sun 2-4
	Harbor Bay Isle	510-814-4836	Harbor Bay Realty
		Nina Quan	
Albany			
\$329,000	848 Stannage Ave. #7	1bd/1ba	Open Sun. 2-4:30
		510-339-9290	Prudential
		Gene Boomer	
\$369,000	850 Stannage #1	1BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
		510-338-1363	Pacific Union
		Leslie Easterday	
\$395,000	417 Evelyn #206	2bd/2ba	Open Sun. 2-4
		510-701-7181	Security Pacific
		Carolyn Dippi	
\$445,000	545 Pierce St. #1306	2bd/2ba	Open Sun 2-4:30
		510-527-9111	Marvin Gardens
		Nic Tang	
\$650,000	742 Jackson	3bd/1.5ba	Open Sun 2-4:30
		510-527-2700x32	Marvin Gardens
		Richard Morrison	
\$685,000	1068 Ordway	2+BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4
		510-338-1330	Pacific Union
		Lori Arai	
\$699,000	1108 Kains Ave.	3bd/2ba	Open Sun. 1:30-4
		510-280-2145	Red Oak Realty
		Virginia Jones	
\$699,000	1501 Visalia	2bd/1ba	Open Sun. 2-4
		510-292-2002	Red Oak Realty
		Dianne Arancibia	
\$799,000	717 Madison St.	3+bd/2ba	Open Sun. 2-4
		510-526-4336	Northbrae Properties
		Anita Thede	
\$1,099,000	717 Hillside Ave.	4BD/2.5BA	Open Sun. 2-4:30
		510-339-4700	Coldwell Banker
		Karyn Selby Miller	
Berkeley			
\$239,000	1515 Hokins #5	4BD/-BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	Studio	510-486-1495	Coldwell Banker
		Jacky Arvin	
\$339,000	2112 McKinley #C	1BD/1BA	Sun 2-4:30
		510-339-9290	Prudential
		Monica Forneri	
\$469,000	1143 Camella	2BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	West Brae	510-848-1950x212	Thornwall Properties
		Mary Canavan	
\$499,000	1428 Ward St.	2BD/2BA	Open Sun. 2-4
		510-849-9900	Maison Nouveau
		Annaliese Demuth	
\$529,000	2763 Dohr St.	2BD/1BA	Open Sun 1-4
	Berkeley	510-486-1495	Coldwell Banker
		Gene Della Maggiora	
\$565,000	1269 Campus Drive	2BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4
	Lower Hills	510-653-2050	Tarpoiff & Talbert
		Anet Tarpoiff	
\$575,000	2030A Blake St.	3BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
		510-652-2133	The Grubb Co.
		Nacio Brown	
\$589,000	2211 Browning St.	2bd/1ba	Open Sun. 1-4
		510-280-2105	Red Oak Realty
		Sara Garabedian	
\$599,000	1415 Carleton	3BD/1BA	Open Sun 1-4:30
	Berkeley	510-486-1495	Coldwell Banker
		Azaria Berhane	
\$599,000	2748 California St	2BD/1BA	Open Sun 1-4
	Berkeley	510-486-1495	Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Ages
\$625,000	1708 Acton St.	3bd/2ba	Open Sun. 2-4
	No. Berkley	510-527-4336	Northbrae Properties
		Anita Thede	
\$635,000	911 Modoc St	2bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-4
		510-524-9888x33	Berkeley Hills Realty
		Bill & Tracy	
\$649,000	1573 Thousand Oaks	3BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4
		510-339-8900	C21 Heritage
		Miriam Wilson	
\$659,000	1379 Delaware Street	2+BD/1+BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
		510-652-2133	The Grubb Co.
		Jennifer Fickenscher	
\$695,000	1339 Grizzly Peak Boulevard	3BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
		510-652-2133	The Grubb Co.
		Bebe Mcrae	
\$699,000	1160 Keeler	2BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4
	Berkeley	510-486-1495	Coldwell Banker
		Tomi Thomas	
\$699,000	2328 Le Conte Ave.	3BD/2BA	Open Sun 1-4
		925-258-1111	Alain Pinel Realtors
		Bill & Billy Finnegan	
\$699,000	39 Del Mar Ave.	4bd/2ba	Open Sun. 2-4
	3rd Berkeley Hills	510-849-9900	Maison Nouveau
		Scott Ward	
\$749,000	1161 Sutter St.	3BD/2BA	Open Sun 1-4
		925-788-2947	RE/MAX Allied Brokers
		Tim Shields	
\$749,000	8 W. Parnassus CT	3bd/2ba	Open Sun. 2-4
		510-292-2030	Red Oak Realty
		Catherine Stern	
\$869,000	691 Ensenada Avenue	3BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
		510-339-0400	The Grubb Co.
		Nancy Lehnkind	

Berkeley			
\$925,000	3347 Martin Luther King Jr. Way	4BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	The Grubb Co.	510-339-0400	Bettina Balestrieri
\$949,000	1111 Alvarado	4bd/2.5ba	Open Sun 2-4:30
	Claremont Hills	510-524-9888 x14	Berkeley Hills Realty
		Warren Lee	
\$949,000	1119 Keith Ave.	4bd/3ba	Sun 2-4pm
	Marvin Gardens	510-527-2700x33	Juliana Wynberg
\$950,000	2818 Webster St.	3+BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	The Grubb Co.	510-339-0400	Chris Cohn
\$950,000	645 Euclid Ave	3BD/2.5BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	The Grubb Co.	510-339-0400	Anne Van Dyke
\$1,100,000	616 The Alameda	3+bd/3ba	Open Sun 2-4:30
	Thousand Oaks	510-524-9888 x28	Berkeley Hills Realty
		Barbara Conheim	
\$1,150,000	2470 Cedar St.	3+ +bd/3ba	Open Sun 2-4:30
	Berkeley Hills Realty	510-524-9888 x14	Arlene Baxter
\$1,150,000	2929 Benvenue	4+bd/2.5ba	Open Sun. 2-4:30
	Red Oak Realty	510-280-2125	Kathy Nitsan
\$1,175,000	781 Spruce Street	4BD/3BA	Open Sun 2-4
	Berkeley Hills	510-486-1495	Coldwell Banker
		Kathie Longinotti	
\$1,185,000	6928 Bristol Street	4+BD/4BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	The Grubb Co.	510-339-0400	Jill Carrigan
\$1,195,000	1106 Grizzly Peak Blvd	3bd/2ba	Open Sun. 1-5
	Red Oak Realty	510-932-3538	Robin Kingsbury
\$1,275,000	534 The Alameda	4BD/3BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	Pacific Union	510-338-1370	Erika Celestre
\$1,295,000	6865 Bristol Drive	3BD/2.5BA	Open Sun 1-4
	dba Executive Brokers, sm	510-649-6500	Helen Fox
\$1,400,000	2156 Ward St	5BD/4BA	Open Sun 2-4
	Berkeley	510-486-1495	Coldwell Banker
		Michael Powers	
\$1,495,000	1185 Glen Ave.	3bd/2.5ba	Open Sat/Sun. 2-4:30
	Berkeley Hills	510-334-8932	ZipRealty
		Herman Chan	
\$1,680,000	753 Santa Barbara	5+ +bd/3ba	Open Sun 2-4:30
	Berkeley Hills Realty	510-524-9888 x14	Maya Trilling
\$1,685,000	669 Euclid Avenue	4+BD/3+BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	The Grubb Co.	510-652-2133	Ford/Plowright
\$1,700,000	96 The Plaza Drive	5BD/3BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	The Grubb Co.	510-652-2133	Susie Schevill
\$1,795,000	69 Parnassus Rd.	4+bd/3ba	Open Sun. 2-4
	Red Oak Realty	510-435-6218	Heidi & Jerry Long
\$1,800,000	1039 Amito Dr.	4BD/4.5BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	The Grubb Co.	510-652-2133	Bebe Mcrae
\$3,250,000	768 San Luis Rd	3+BD/3BA	Open Sun 2-4
	Berkeley Hills	510-486-1495	Coldwell Banker
		Kim & Barbara Marienthal	
\$	6030 Chabolyon Ter.	4BD. 2.5BA	Open Sat & Sun 1-4
	Pacific Union GMAC	415-380-2161	Patricia Scott Winslow
\$849,000	530 Vistamont Ave.	3bd/2.5ba	Open Sun. 2-4
	Berkeley Hills	510-527-9554	Re/Max
		Ury Beary	
Castro Valley			
\$895,000	5394 Elaine Ct.	4bd/3ba	Open Sun. 2-4:30
	Better Homes Montclair	510-339-4550	NahidNassiri.com
Concord			
\$384,990	1451 Wharton Way	2 BD/2 BA	Open Sun 2-4
	Newhall Village	510-521-6149	Centennial Real Estate
		Tony Aruda	
El Cerrito			
\$375,000	1725 Liberty St. #2	2bd/2ba	Open Sun. 2-4
	(condo)	510-292-2037	Red Oak Realty
		Matt Cord	
\$479,000	815 Pomona Ave.	2bd/1ba	Open Sun. 2-5
	Marvin Gardens	510-524-0800	Pat Duffy
\$499,000	1421 Richmond St.	3bd/1.5ba	Open Sun. 2-4
	Coldwell Banker Bartels	510-334-5805	Joanne Yu
\$509,950	1332 Richmond Street	2BD 1BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	C21 Heritage	510-339-8900	Nick Lavrov
\$525,000	440 Albemarle Ave.	2+bd/1ba	Open Sun. 2-4
	Marvin Gardens	510-527-9111	Jean Shrem/Marni Fischer
\$529,000	441 Norvell St	3BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4
	Coldwell Banker	510-486-1495	Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Angus
\$569,000	615 Norvell	3BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	Pacific Union	510-338-1345	Bob & Carolyn Nelson
\$575,000	1524 Richmond St.	3 BD/1 BA	Sat/Sun 1-4
	Keller Williams	510-346-4112	Tere Lee
\$575,000	6626 Cutting Blvd.	3BD/1+BA	Open Sun 2-4
	El Cerrito	510-486-1495	Coldwell Banker
	Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Angus		
\$585,000	645 Norvell St.	2BD/1.5BA	Open Sun 2-4:30
	The Grubb Co.	510-652-2133	Helene Bancer
\$599,000	844 Lexington Avenue	3+BD/2BA	Open Sun 1:30-4
	El Cerrito	510-486-1495	Coldwell Banker
		Maxine Malaney	
\$629,000	6602 Stockton Ave.	3bd/2ba	Open Sat. 2-4 (Near Plaza)
	Prudential	510-868-1400	Rachelle Losman
\$629,000	6602 Stockton Ave.	3bd/2ba	Open Sun. 1-4 (Near Plaza)
	Prudential	510-868-1400	Lillie Brady
\$649,000	1616 Richmond St.	4 BD/2 BA	Open Sat & Sun 2-4
	IC Financial Realty	510-550-1100	Kevin Chan
\$685,000	2305 Gloria St.	3bd/2.5ba	Open Sun. 2-4
	Marvin Gardens	510-527-9111	Te Everson
\$695,000	846 Norvell St.	5bd/2ba	Open Sun. 2-4
		510-527-9111	

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com

389 Belmont St #110 1-4 Adams Pl. East Bay Hills	2BD/2BA 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins
6380 Monadnock Way 2-430 Millsmont Amberson "Mac" McCulloch	2bd/1ba 510-834-2010 CP Yang
2510 11th Ave. New China Town Cal. Realty	3bd/2ba 510-834-2010 CP Yang
319 Santa Clara Ave. 1bd/1ba 510-332-5635 Julie Souza	2bd/1ba 510-332-5635 Julie Souza
608 58th St. No. Oakland Tracy Davis	2bd/1ba 510-848-1950 Tracy Davis
7572 Mountain Blvd #3 Oakland Hills	2BD/1.5BA 510-338-1377 Lori Lombardo
338 Vernon #307 510-444-5300 Linnea Grebmeler	2BD/2BA 510-444-5300 Linnea Grebmeler
3427 Adell Ct. 2bd/1ba 510-280-2147 Scott Boward	2bd/1ba 510-280-2147 Scott Boward
4032 Bayo Street Laurel Bennett Realtors	2BD/1BA 510-531-7000x261 Nicolette Bot
9320 Holly St 2bd/1ba 510-339-4700 Jeffrey Neideman	2bd/1ba 510-339-4700 Jeffrey Neideman
565 Bellevue Ave. #1108 1bd/2ba 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins	1bd/2ba 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins
3781 Crestview Dr. 2bd/2ba 510-280-2112 Edna Olmstead	2bd/2ba 510-280-2112 Edna Olmstead
9443 Peach Street 2 BD/1 BA 510-337-8670 Catina Harvey	2 BD/1 BA 510-337-8670 Catina Harvey
2507 24th Ave Fruitvale Jennie A. Flanigan	3BD/2BA 510-338-1354 Jennie A. Flanigan
6906/6508 MacArthur Blvd. Mills College 510-339-9290 Bill Boze	DUPLEX 510-339-9290 Bill Boze
280 Caldecott #325 510-339-8900x240 Laura Lambert	1BD/1BA 510-339-8900x240 Laura Lambert
425 Orange St. #217 CONDO Adams Point 510-336-9999 Agent	2BD/2BA 510-336-9999 Agent
844 55th St 2bd/1ba 510-652-6537 Tom Nemeth	2bd/1ba 510-652-6537 Tom Nemeth
2344 90th Avenue MacArthur Bennett Realtors	3BD/1BA 510-531-7000x241 Rita Robinson
2818 Atwell Fruitvale Bennett Realtors	2BD/1BA 510-531-7000x295 Carol Robbiano
2624 73th Avenue 3 BD/2 BA 510-337-8670 Lillian Liao	3 BD/2 BA 510-337-8670 Lillian Liao
1815 Montana St. 2bd/1.5ba 510-332-5635 Julie Souza	2bd/1.5ba 510-332-5635 Julie Souza
4101 Howe St #304 2BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Steve Michaelides	2BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Steve Michaelides
311 Oak St. #517 2-430 Jack London Square 510-338-1374 Donna DeBardi	1BD/1.5BA 510-338-1374 Donna DeBardi
1412 East 38th St. Glenview 510-834-2010 Roxanne Wong	2bd/1ba 510-834-2010 Roxanne Wong
260 Caldecott #124 2BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Adam Betta	2BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Adam Betta
3024 Madeline Laurel Karen Lum	2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Karen Lum
4501 Camden St. 3bd/1ba 510-280-2187 Nedda Cheung	3bd/1ba 510-280-2187 Nedda Cheung
7749 Sterling Dr. 2bd/1ba 510-712-0073 Martin Holmes	2bd/1ba 510-712-0073 Martin Holmes
2569 Havens Court 3bd/1.5ba 510-834-2010 Demetrius Wilson	3bd/1.5ba 510-834-2010 Demetrius Wilson
2757 Madera Ave. 2bd/1ba 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins	2bd/1ba 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins
3333 Columbian Dr. 2+ BD/1 BA 510-381-9695 Yea	2+ BD/1 BA 510-381-9695 Yea
2520 Eastman Ave. 2BD/1BA 925-577-0525 Keith Rapp	2BD/1BA 925-577-0525 Keith Rapp
9617 C Street Triplex Laura Archiglia	4BD/3BA 510-488-1495 Laura Archiglia
916 E. 21st St. San Antonio Michael Valva	3+BD/2BA 510-451-7317 x25 Michael Valva
953 39th Street North Oakland Hry Lake	3 BD/2 BA 510-375-5950 Hry Lake
3817 Buell St. 3bd/2.5ba 650-278-1459 Jeanie Russell	3bd/2.5ba 650-278-1459 Jeanie Russell
11051 Broadway Terrace 2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Claudia Bowman	2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Claudia Bowman
2845 Modesto Maxwell Park Bennett Realtors	3BD/2BA 510-531-7000x228 Kate Phillips
3201 Knowland Ave. 3bd/2ba 510-968-1487 Barbara Reynolds	3bd/2ba 510-968-1487 Barbara Reynolds
4419 Camden Street 3BD/1.5BA 510-531-7000x244 Margaret Acevedo	3BD/1.5BA 510-531-7000x244 Margaret Acevedo
490 Jean St 2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Gary Robinson	2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Gary Robinson
876 37th St. 3+bd/1.5ba 510-326-5800 Bill Grisman	3+bd/1.5ba 510-326-5800 Bill Grisman

5550,000 + 505 Lancaster St. Lofts Sun 12-5 Hill & Company	1 BD/2 BA 415-321-4234 Steve Moazed
\$569,900 3051 Modesto Avenue Open Sun 1-4 RE/MAX CC Connection	4BD/2BA 925-906-1855 Olivia Stockman
\$575,000 1443 Excelsior Ave. Sun 1-4 Valley Properties	2 BD/1 BA 925-519-4922 Judi Irwin
\$579,000 1830 E. 20th St. Sun 2-5 Prudential	4bd/2ba 510-287-5764 Mayling Trinh
\$579,000 2507 Carmel St. Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker	2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Vicky Faulk
\$579,000 4814 Allendale Ave. Open Sun 1-30-4 Red Oak Realty	3bd/1.5ba 510-292-2006 Patty Hyun
\$579,000 664 60th St Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	-BD/-BA 510-652-6537 Tom Nemeth
\$595,000 4027-29 Lincoln Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	DUPLEX 510-338-1357 Francis Heath
\$595,000 565 Bellevue Ave. #1206 Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair	2bd/2ba 510-899-6384 Tom Watson
\$595,000 822 Key Route Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	2BD/2BA 510-531-7000x270 Antoine Piron
\$598,000 1703 37th Ave. Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair	2+bd/1ba 510-339-8400 David Sykes
\$599,000 3339 Herrier Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	2+BD/1BA 510-338-1364 Cindy Houts
\$599,000 3689 virden Sun 2-4:30 Prudential	2+bd/2ba 510-428-0900 Brian Santilena
\$599,000 4500 Clarewood Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	2BD/2.5BA 510-652-2133 Carolyn Jones
\$599,000 4715 Davenport Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	3+BD/1BA 510-338-1314 Sandi Klemmer
\$599,000 4715 Davenport Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	3+BD/1BA 510-338-1314 Sandi Klemmer
\$599,000 5134 Daisy St. Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair	3bd/1ba 510-482-9000 PatriciaBennett.com
\$599,500 3730 Laguna Ave. Open Sun 1:30-4:30 Red Oak Realty	2+bd/1ba 510-292-2013 Todd Andrew
\$610,000 5420 Locksley Ave. Sun 2-4:30 Keller Williams	2BD/1BA 510-409-7344 Ardenne Swain
\$629,000 4042 Canon Ave. Open Sun 2-5 Better Homes Montclair	3bd/1.5ba 510-339-4000 Arnold Mueller
\$629,000 5147 Camden Street Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	3BD/1.5BA 510-531-7000x277 Anne Manley
\$830,000 256 Covington St. Sun 2-4:30 Prudential	2bd/2ba 510-339-9290 Myrtice Wong
\$639,000 539 Zorah St. Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	3BD/1BA 510-814-4884 Izabella Lipetski
\$640,000 41 Elysian Fields Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	3BD/2BA 510-531-7000x238 Patsy Buhler
\$649,000 7087 Pinehaven Rd. Open Sun 2-4 Maison Nouvelle	3bd/2ba 510-849-9900 Scott Ward
\$650,000 1415 Barrows Road Sun 2-4:30 Prudential	2BD/1BA 510-339-9290 Janet Flint
\$650,000 1682 2nd Ave Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker	2BD/2BA 510-339-4700 David Eckert
\$659,000 5516 Merriewood Dr. Open Sun 2-4 Northbrae Properties	2bd/2ba 510-526-4336 Chris Thede
\$659,000 8 Alida Ct. Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	3BD/1.5BA 510-339-4700 Liat Bostick
\$694,500 4811 Telegraph Ave#508 Open Sat 10-4 Lawton Associates R.E.	2BD/2.5BA 510-547-5970 x63 Keith Sjolholm
\$699,000 1032-36 East 19th St. Sun 1-5 Coldwell Banker	3BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Donna Conroy
\$699,000 452 Hiller Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	2+BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Susanne Paul
\$699,000 505 Fairmount Ave Open Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors	-BD/-BA 510-899-8000 Sarah Schliser
\$699,000 5829 Colton Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	2BD/1BA 510-531-7000x228 Kate Phillips
\$699,000 7080 Sayre Dr. Open Sun, 2-4:30 Agent	3BD/2BA 510-787-3333 Bruce Hoeger
\$720,000 5818 Clover Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	3BD/2.5BA 510-338-1316 Joan Dark
\$725,000 4912 Lawton Ave. Open Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors	510-899-8000 S. Arballo/A. Montague
\$725,000 6676 Pine Needle Dr. Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair	4bd/3ba 510-339-4550 NahidNasirif.com
\$725,000 6989 Pinehaven Rd. Sun 2-4:30 Keller Williams	3 BD/2.5 BA 510-339-5709 Judy Richardson
\$729,000 168 Malden Lane Open Sun 2-5 Coldwell Banker	3BD/2BA 510-339-4700 Rachel Baller
\$729,000 5611 Florence Terrace Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	3BD/1.5BA 510-531-7000x289 Jaya Bhimani
\$732,000 404 Hiller Dr. Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	2BD/2.5BA 510-339-4700 Nancy Dickey
\$739,000 2747 Mountain Gate Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential	3bd/2ba 510-339-9290 Janet Flint

\$739,000 5870 Moraga Ave. Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage	2BD/1.5BA 510-339-8900 x238 Helen Nicholas & Jody Dworzak
\$745,000 5522 Taft Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	2+BD/1BA 510-652-2133 Faye Keogh
\$749,000 6101 Hillgess Open Sun 2-4 Thornwall Properties	4+bd/2ba 510-848-1950 Helen Walker/ Kathryn Stein
\$765,000 380 Taurus Ave. Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	4BD/3BA 510-339-4700 CJ Boydston
\$769,000 3306 Herrier Street Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage	2+BD/2BA 510-506-4696 Vicky Friedman
\$790,000 428 Avon St. Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty	3bd/2ba 510-292-2011 Tim Cassidy
\$795,000 5734 Claremont Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	5BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Helene Barkin
\$799,000 3061 Guido St. Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair	3bd/2ba 510-899-6374 Seki Chikami 510-899-6303
\$799,000 325 Warwick Ave. Open Sun 1-4 RE/MAX East Bay Hills	4bd/3ba 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins
\$799,000 7025 Pinehaven Rd. Sun 2-4:30 Prudential	3bd/2+ba 510-339-9290 Laurel Strand
\$799,000 7200 Sayre Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors	4BD/4BA 510-899-8000 Hal Castle
\$825,000 6815 Oakwood Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Dana Cohen
\$829,000 4188 Wilshire Blvd. Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	3BD/2BA 510-339-4700 Rachel Baller
\$839,000 35 Schooner Hill Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage	3BD/3BA 510-339-8900 Gayle Tantau
\$849,000 1033 Rose Ave. Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair	4+bd/3ba 510-339-4550 NahidNasirif.com
\$849,000 2751 Chelsea Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage	4BD/2BA 510-409-6796 Sue Williams
\$849,000 447 Lee St. Open Sun 1-4 Re/Max E.Bay Hills	3bd/3ba 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins
\$850,000 1100 Underhills Rd. Open 2-4:30pm ERA Realty	3BD/2BA 510-410-4917 Fred Brown
\$870,000 5674 Colton Blvd. Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey	3BD/2BA 510-748-1176/748-1133 L. Shea/ S. Neher
\$875,000 6047 Snake Road Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	3BD/2BA 510-339-4000 Tricia Swift
\$885,000 88 Starview Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	3BD/2.5BA 510-338-1366 Joanna Hirsch
\$895,000 6833 Moore Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	3BD/3BA 510-531-7000x235 Frank Hennefer
\$899,000 1865 Manzanita Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	4BD/2.5BA 510-338-1359 Michelle Vasey
\$899,000 4445 Evans Ave. Sun 2-5 Prudential	4+bd/2+ba 510-304-3282 Alyssa Weller
\$899,000 7260 Homewood Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage	4BD/4.5BA 510-421-6818 Andrea Gordon
\$899,000 870 Sunnyhills Rd. Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	3BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Angela Wel Grubb
\$925,000 5766 Harbor Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4+BD/3.5BA 510-339-0400 Dana Cohen
\$929,000 6620 Gunn Drive Sun 2-4:30 pm Coldwell Banker	3BD/2BA 510-339-4700 George Karsant
\$949,000 2144 Mastlands Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	3BD/3.5BA 510-339-0400 Hope Broderick
\$949,000 5476 Proctor Ave. Open Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors	3BD/2BA 510-899-8000 Carolyn Devol
\$975,000 10828 Cameron Open Sun 2-4:30 Richardson Real Estate	4+BD/2+BA 510-569-3499 Agent
\$975,000 45 Starview Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage	3BD/2.5BA 510-339-8900 Gayle Tantau
\$995,000 743-743A Walker Ave Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	DUPLEX 510-338-1317 Kathy Flynn
\$1,049,000 9383 Skyline Blvd. Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential	3bd/2+ba 510-339-9290 Laurel Strand
\$1,050,000 5490 Kales Open Sun 1-5 Lawton Associates	4BD/2+BA 510-547-6970 x55 Ron Kriss
\$1,100,000 1100 Norwood Ave. Open Sun 2-5 Prudential	DUPLEX 510-834-2010 Dolores Thom
\$1,150,000 6727 Pinehaven Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	4BD/3BA 510-531-7000x282 Fred Perkins
\$1,195,000 5555 Moraga Sun 2-4:30pm Coldwell Banker	4BD/4BA 510-339-4700 Julie Joyce
\$1,195,000 680 Via Rialto Sun 2-4:30 Prudential	5bd/3.5ba 510-339-9290 Millie Lomardi
\$1,200,000 123 Pershing Dr. Open Sun 2-5 Valva Realty Co.	4BD/2.5BA 510-287-2383 Paul Valva
\$1,295,000 3299 Brunel Dr. Sun 2-5:00 New Spring Real Estate	5bd/3.5ba 510-524-3510 Yehuda Ben-David
\$1,295,000 5110 Crockett Pl Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair	4BD/3.5BA 510-339-4280 Mary Jane McConville
\$1,295,000 6434 Regent Street Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	5BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Ruth Frassetto

\$1,299,000 5601 Leona St. Sun 1-4:30 Coldwell Banker	4BD 4BA 510-339-4700 Donna Conroy
\$1,350,000 9 Woodside Glen Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	R/2BA 510-339-0400 Mindy Scott
\$1,395,000 5132 Cochran Ave Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett	3BD/2.5BA 510-331-7000x272 Chris Christensen
\$1,395,000 5945 Amy Dr. Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	5BD/3BA 510-338-1382 Keith Tollas
\$1,399,000 6940 Charing Cross Rd. Open Sun 2-4 Maison Nouvelle	3bd/3ba 510-849-9900 Tory Finn
\$1,485,000 83 Castle Park Way Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	3+BD/3.5BA 510-339-0400 Sandra Vogl
\$1,495,000 5323 Estates Dr. Open Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors	3BD/2.5BA 510-899-8000 Carolyn Devol
\$1,495,000 911 Larkspur Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	4+BD/4BA 510-338-1331 David Ichikawa
\$1,499,000 6171 Rutland Rd. Open Sun 2-4:30pm Coldwell Banker	4BD/3BA 510-339-0400 Joan Duffield
\$1,499,000 6267 Rutland Rd. Open Sun 2-4:30pm Coldwell Banker	3BD/3.5BA 510-339-4700 David Eckert
\$1,500,000 1183 Sunnyhills Road Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	3+BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Mary Merrick
\$1,500,000 32 Cathy Lane Open Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors	4+BD/3.5BA 510-899-8000 Deborah Riney
\$1,575,000 175 Villanova Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	3BD/3.1BA 510-331-7000x251 Mary Neuberger
\$1,635,000 6095 Fairlane Dr. Sun 1-5 Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.	5BD/4.5BA 510-748-1806 Debbie Duda
\$1,650,000 6241 Contra Costa Road Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4+BD/3+BA 510-652-2133 Carolyn Jones
\$1,675,000 6040 Contra Costa Road Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	BR/3.5BA 510-339-0400 Tricia Swift
\$1,699,000 2707 Camino Lenada Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	4+BD/3BA 510-338-1346 Joanna Gould
\$1,729,000 5801 Buena Vista Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4BD/3.5BA 510-339-0400 Elizabeth Dickson
\$1,795,000 5952 Buena Vista Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	5BD/4BA 510-338-1318 Dee Knowland
\$1,898,000 Buena Vista Ave. Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential	5+BD/3+BA 510-339-9290 Heldi Marchesotti
\$2,175,000 95 Westminster Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4+BD/3+BA 510-338-1366 Debbi Dimaggio
\$2,190,000 6021 Acacia Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union	4BD/3BA 510-338-1318 Dee Knowland
\$2,200,000 5601 Denton Pl. Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	4BD/3.5BA 510-339-4700 Judy Ackerman
\$2,245,000 162 Beechwood Dr. Sun 2-5 Prudential	4BD/4BA 510-338-1359 Beth Barger 510-428-0900
\$2,500,000 12363 Skyline Blvd. Open Sun 2-4:30 ERA Home Traditions	5BD/5BA 510-410-4917 Fred Brown
\$2,800,000 5935 Manchester Open Sun 2-5 Pacific Union	4BD/4BA 510-338-1357 Francis Heath
\$ 6030 Chaboly Ter. Open Sat & Sun 1-4 Pacific Union GMAC	4+BD/2.5BA 415-380-2161 Patricia Scott Winslow
Call for Price 647 56th Street Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	4BD/3BA 510-531-7000x295 Heldi Kearsley

\$385,000 2539 Lowell Ave Open Sat/Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels	2bd 1ba 510-672-2362 Martha Cortes
\$395,000 4404 McGlothlen Way Open Sun 1-5 Re/Max	3bd/1ba 510-520-4816 Rick & Ernie
\$420,000 1401 Santa Clara Street Open Sun 1-4:30pm Better Homes Realty	3BD/1BA 510-380-6017 Anne Anyankwa
\$429,000 1801 Mendocino St. Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens	2bd/1ba 510-662-8558 Joan Underwood

ALAMEDA



1804 NASON STREET \$729,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Large 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath family home with 1888 sq ft of living space. Box beamed ceiling in dining room. Fireplace in living room and the Master bedroom is located on the first floor. Large closets and lots of storage space. New interior paint, newly refinished hardwood floors. Also has large lot for garden and play.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Angela McIntyre 510-748-1121



1713 OAK STREET \$629,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 This 3+ bedroom and 1.5 bath home shows pride of ownership. This home supports a newer foundation, roof, gutters/downspouts, freshly painted throughout, new carpeting upstairs and the grounds have been freshly landscaped. It has a brick fireplace in living room. Close to transportation and Park Street. Move-in condition!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108



1006 TAYLOR AVENUE \$588,000
West End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Sweet 2 bedroom, 1 bath Spanish Split-level home. Fireplace in living room, built-in china cabinet in dining room. Sunny breakfast nook can double as study or play area. Hardwood floors under carpet. Remodeled bath, 1-car garage, utility room and storage. Neat, clean, move-in condition.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Troy Staten 510-748-1125



8 CERRUTI COURT \$765,000
Marina Village Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Hurry this property won't last long! This 3 bedroom, 2 full bath home is located on a quiet cul-de-sac with easy access to public transportation and shopping. Two great features for this property are wonderful oversized master suite and hardwood floors - this is just the beginning!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108



2511 EAGLE AVENUE \$599,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 This home located at the East End of Alameda has been updated from top to bottom. Roof, foundation, carpets, plumbing, electrical, double pane windows, water heater are all new. 2+ bedroom and 2 bath home in a quiet cul-de-sac. Freshly painted interior and exterior. There is a private outdoor area for children to play, BBQ or enjoying your morning coffee.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Moon Tam 510-747-1620



1019 TAYLOR AVENUE \$839,000
West End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Queen Anne ready to sparkle. Victorian legal duplex used as single family home with separate living unit. Many architectural details. 2 units, 2 kitchens, 2 living rooms, 2 full baths, 2 half baths, 2 garages, 4 bedrooms, high ceilings, tall windows, newly refinished wood floors. Many bonus rooms with room for expansion in full basement. Waiting for Victorian lover to restore its glory.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Shon Slaughter 510-748-1172

Gallagher & Lindsey

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ALAMEDA



1902 PARU STREET \$845,000
Marina Cove Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30
 Spacious contemporary home in Alameda's Marina Cove development. Less than 3 year old 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Large master suite. The laundry room is conveniently located on the second floor. Pristine general condition.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Rolando & Coqui Basora 510-748-1166



48 BRITT COURT \$720,000
Harbor Bay Open Sunday 1-4
 Sunny 9-year-old 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home in desirable cul-de-sac. Two-story with dining area and family room. Walking distance to elementary school, park, lagoon and ferry.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Kurt Jacobsen 510-748-1173
Sonia Lastreto 510-748-1170



2017 LINCOLN AVENUE \$749,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 Totally remodeled inside 3 bedroom, 2 bath home! New exterior paint, hardwood floors throughout, central heating, newly landscaped front & backyard, new plumbing and unfinished dug-out basement. New kitchen with granite countertops; appliances included. All this home needs is furniture and a family!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Tom Bennett 510-748-1158



1415 LINCOLN AVENUE \$549,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 Must see home centrally located near shops, schools, parks & public transportation. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home features newer paint, carpeted bedrooms, wood floors in living room, pergio floors in kitchen and attached bonus space to master bedroom! The stone fireplace with surrounding built-in bookshelves is perfect for cozy nights to curl up in front of the fireplace with your favorite book.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jose Cerda-Zain 510-748-1197
Sandi Hamilton 510-748-1192



1408-1410 BAY STREET \$775,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 TREMENDOUS UP-SIDE POTENTIAL! Needs work, 3 garages, 2 one-bedroom units, 2 studios Must See.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Dale Reno 510-748-1142

ALAMEDA



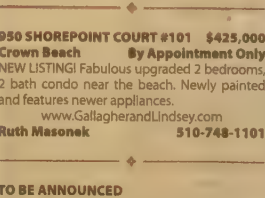
2206 CLINTON AVENUE \$895,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 Wonderful 5 bedroom, 3 bath Craftsman family home with built-ins, leaded glass & more. NEW master bath & kitchen with hardwood floors, stainless appliances, Bosch dishwasher, Viking "professional" range, slate countertops and French doors leading to a large deck overlooking lovely garden with mature Japanese maple. Used as a single-family home for decades, this lovely home is a legal duplex with a separate entrance to the upper level. Live on one level and rent the other for additional income!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Virginia Ambrosini 510-748-1138



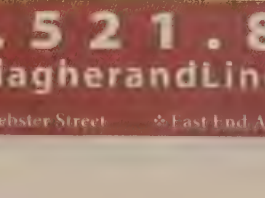
1704 ALAMEDA AVENUE \$1,590,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 This impressive home offers you the charm of the past combined with modern upgrades that "Retain Grandeur of Turn of the Century Living". Plenty of room to entertain. Located in Central Alameda, this Victorian is in excellent condition with meticulous attention to detail and craftsmanship. Beautifully restored Eastlake Mansion. Originally constructed in 1884, it now features 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths in main house, plus 2 bedroom, 1 bath rental unit, 4-car garage plus bonus room.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Donnee & Dave Hankel 510-748-1184
Lisa Perry 510-748-1119
Annaliza Ramirez 510-748-1195



2152 BUENA VISTA AVENUE \$685,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 Prime location 2+ bedroom, 2 full bath Victorian. Beautifully landscaped backyard, full basement with legal height. Large yard, new interior/exterior paint. Close to park & Park Street Business district.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Eric Tam 510-748-1135
Moon Tam 510-747-1620



1701 CENTRAL AVENUE #A \$425,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 NEW LISTING! Single level 2 bedrooms, 2 baths corner condo in a prime location in Central Alameda. This is a must see!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ruth Masonek 510-748-1101

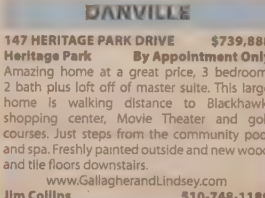


950 SHOREPOINT COURT #101 \$425,000
Crown Beach By Appointment Only
 NEW LISTING! Fabulous upgraded 2 bedrooms, 2 bath condo near the beach. Newly painted and features newer appliances.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ruth Masonek 510-748-1101

ANTIOCH



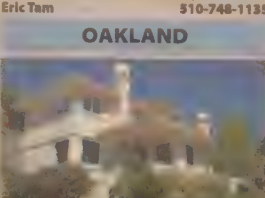
4135 DONNER COURT \$590,000
Wild Horse Coming Soon
 Just imagine living in this beautiful 4 bed, 3 full bath home with extra bonus sitting room off the master bedroom! Located in the very desirable Wildhorse development, this home is loaded with fantastic upgrades and much more!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Darryl & Yolanda Freeman 510-748-1165



147 HERITAGE PARK DRIVE \$739,888
Heritage Park By Appointment Only
 Amazing home at a great price, 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus loft off of master suite. This large home is walking distance to Blackhawk, shopping center, Movie Theater and golf courses. Just steps from the community pool and spa. Freshly painted outside and new wood and tile floors downstairs.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1189



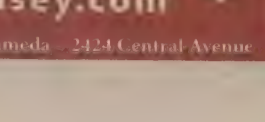
6701 BLAKE STREET \$949,000
El Cerrito By Appointment Only
 2 HOUSES ON ONE LOT! Walking distance to BART and shopping. Back house divided into 4 unwarranted units with plenty of income. Front house is a beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath single family home.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1189



765 POINCIANA STREET \$545,000
Southland Open Sat & Sun 1-4
 This beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home features newer exterior paint, wood burning fireplace and beautiful yards. Close to Southland Mall, shopping and transportation. This is a must see!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Eric Tam 510-748-1135



6095 FAIRLANE DRIVE \$1,635,000
Montclair Open Sunday 1-5
 NEW LISTING! Built in 1998, sunny and bright 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath home with Bay Bridge and city views. Two minutes from Rockridge BART. Great backyard, gourmet kitchen, fireplace with oak mantle, spacious closets, Jacuzzi bathtub and much more!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Debbie Budd 510-748-1806

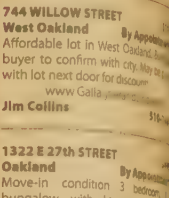


PRIME LAKE LOCATION \$1,199,000
Lake Merritt Coming Soon
 Prime location for this sixplex, legal triplex for conventional financing. Beautiful brown shingle craftsman style with large backyard and some parking plus garage. Call for more details.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1189

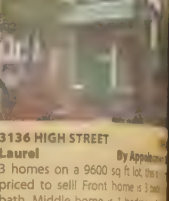
OAKLAND



5674 COLTON BLVD. \$674,000
Montclair Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with hardwood floors, formal living room, LR and kitchen. Formal living room and built-ins. Lower level consists of 1 bedroom/1 bath. With its own entrance perfect for your in-laws or au pair.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Lori Shea 510-748-1148
Stephanie Neher 510-748-1121



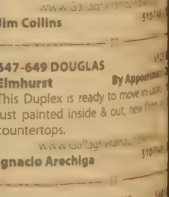
744 WILLOW STREET \$744,000
West Oakland By Appointment Only
 Affordable lot in West Oakland. Buyer to confirm with city. May be sold with lot next door for discount.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1189



1322 E 27th STREET \$1,322,000
Oakland By Appointment Only
 Move-in condition 3 bedroom bungalow with bay windows, fireplace, extra large eastern kitchen, studio in basement. Beautiful with redwood deck and home many upgrades.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Dobro Goodale 510-748-1108



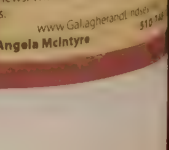
3136 HIGH STREET \$1,316,000
Laurel By Appointment Only
 3 homes on a 9600 sq ft lot, there is a 1 bedroom, 1 bath, middle home is a 1 bedroom, 1 bath, rear home is a studio.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jose Cerda-Zain 510-748-1197



188 PERALTA STREET \$1,188,000
West Oakland By Appointment Only
 NEW 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom winning architect, Paul Wang's new offering features 10ft ceilings, hardwood floors, granite counters, ceramic tile, new carpets and automatic gate with 10 minutes from BART to S.F. Downtown Oakland & BART.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Nations 510-748-1108



1699 8th STREET \$1,699,000
West Oakland By Appointment Only
 Wonderful live/work potential! Back a nice unit upstairs and rough downstairs. Reduced price if available. door is also purchased together potential.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1189



647-649 DOUGLAS \$1,647,000
Elmhurst By Appointment Only
 This Duplex is ready to move in. Just painted inside & out, new floors, countertops.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1108

3630 PENNIMAN AVENUE \$1,363,000
Oakland By Appointment Only
 This is a great starter home near school. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home studio in back without permits.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1108

1934 22ND AVENUE \$1,193,000
East Oakland By Appointment Only
 Money - Money - Money 6 bedrooms lot. Great price and close to everything.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1108

POINT SAN PABLO YACHT HARBOUR \$1,100,000
Floating Home By Appointment Only
 Peace and tranquility await you at Pablo Yacht Harbor. Spacious, well designed FLOATING HOME 1 bedroom, two-story home with 11 decks, views. With \$75K down down down.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Angela McIntyre 510-748-1108

510.521.8181
www.GallagherandLindsey.com

West End Alameda - 1410 Webster Street

East End Alameda - 2424 Central Avenue

Around the horn

Softball clinics

The Oakland Girls Softball League will conduct skills clinics for players on four consecutive Sundays in October at Owen Jones Field from noon-2 p.m. Ages 7-10 are invited Oct. 2 and 9; ages 11-14 are invited Oct. 16 and 23. These clinics are free and open to returning and new players and are conducted by a staff that includes college level players. For more information, visit www.ogsl.org or call 510-339-7268.

— Mike McGreehan

Golf fund-raiser

The 46th annual Tee off for Youth Golf Tournament takes place at Claremont Country Club on Monday, Oct. 10. Registration is at 9:30 a.m. with a shotgun start (including lunch) at 11:30 a.m. Proceeds reception takes place at 5 p.m. Proceeds benefit Boys & Girls Clubs of Oakland. To RSVP, call 510-444-8211.

— Mike McGreehan

Win, lose and draw

The Piedmont High School football team has experienced it all in three games this season. The Highlanders have been through the thrill of victory, the agony of defeat . . . and however it is you're supposed to feel after a tie. Piedmont won its season opener in big-time fashion, a 30-0 rout over Northgate. That was followed by a 20-20 tie against Enron. Last week, the Highlanders fell short 28-26 against Justin Siena-Napa. Tonight, Piedmont hosts Oakland. Whatever the result, the Highlanders shouldn't be surprised. They've seen it all so far.

— Dave Carpenter

Field of Dreams

The Oakland Museum presents "Field of Dreams," a family baseball event that will take place in the museum garden Saturday from noon-4 p.m. Among the highlights will be a girls fast-pitch softball demonstration, a fast-pitch radar machine, a make-believe announcers booth and film clips of historic World Series games. This event runs in conjunction with the Baseball Hall of Fame's "Baseball As America," currently on exhibit at the museum.

— Mike McGreehan

Negro League tribute

The Oakland Museum pays tribute to Negro League baseball from 7-10 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7. Former players will share their experiences, and the evening also will include screenings of the films "Only the Ball Was White" and "There Was Always Sun Shining Somewhere." This event runs in conjunction with the Baseball Hall of Fame's "Baseball As America," currently on exhibit at the museum.

— Mike McGreehan

They're back

Roller Derby returns to Alameda on Oct. 22 with the Bay Bombers playing the Chicago Pioneers at the Alameda High School gym starting at 8 p.m. It is the final Northern California game for the 2005 season. Advanced tickets are on sale, ranging in price from \$20 to \$5. For more information call 510-636-9300 or visit www.freewebs.com/bombom-rollerderby/.

— Robert Jordan

Great start

In just his third football game, St. Mary's Robert Stewart returned a kickoff 91 yards for a touchdown in the Panthers' 33-22 victory over Salesian on Saturday. Stewart has been dubbed "The Professor" by his St. Mary's teammates because he has a striking resemblance to And1 Mixtape streetball basketball player Grayson "The Professor" Boucher.

Robert Jordan

On Deck

Girls volleyball, St. Mary's at Albany, Tuesday, 6 p.m. — The rivals meet for the first time in this Bay Shore Athletic League season.

Girls volleyball, Berkeley vs. El Cerrito at Portola Middle School, Tuesday at 5 p.m. — The rivals face each other in the opening day of Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League volleyball action.

Girls tennis, St. Mary's vs. Salesian at Contra Costa College, Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. — This could be a close match, as both the Panthers and Chieftains have winning BSAL records at press time.

Stars of the week

Olivia Stutz, Piedmont girls tennis — Normally the Highlanders' No. 3 singles player, Stutz played at No. 1 against Salesian on Sept. 22 and responded with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Nicole Arioli.

Rolando Oliver, St. Mary's football — The senior scored three touchdowns, rushed for 69 yards and caught two passes for 37 yards in the Panthers' 33-22 win over Salesian. His touchdowns were on a 23-yard run and a 29-yard pass reception and a 24-yard run.

Onu Onu, Berkeley football — Onu had Berkeley's lone touchdown Friday on a 43-yard run and also had a first-half interception in the Yellow Jackets' 24-10 loss to Monte Vista.

Eric Roberson, Albany football — The junior rushed for a team-high 86 yards on 18 carries in the Cougars' 27-0 loss to Berean Christian on Saturday.

Megan Lee, St. Joseph Notre Dame volleyball — Lee had 38 assists in two BSAL matches last week and then had 52 assists, five digs, two kills and seven aces in five matches at the Irvington tournament, which the Pilots won.

Devon Grigg, Alameda football — Grigg intercepted Livermore quarterback Matt Dardenne twice last week and also caught a 24-yard touchdown pass from Blake Reno-Bautista in the Hornets' 40-14 win.

PREP FOOTBALL

Oliver's 3 TDs lift Panthers

By Pete Elman
CORRESPONDENT

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

■ Alameda (2-1) at Berkeley (1-2), 4:30 p.m. today
Last week: Alameda beat Livermore 40-14; Berkeley lost to Monte Vista 24-10

Notes: Despite having a winning record, including a blowout victory last week, the Hornets have been outscored by their opponents 76-62 this season. The Yellow Jackets beat the Hornets 20-7 last year.

■ El Cerrito (2-1) at De Anza (2-1), 7 p.m. today

Last week: El Cerrito lost to Jesse Bethel-Vallejo 36-14; De Anza beat Mission-S.F. 33-13

Notes: The Gauchos defeated the Dons 15-13 in their meeting last season. Even though the Dons won by 20 points last week, they were outgained 177-150 by Mission in offensive yards.

■ St. Mary's (2-1) at Petaluma (3-0) 7:30 p.m. today

Last week: St. Mary's beat Salesian 33-22; Petaluma tied Rancho Colate-Rohnert Park 7-7

Notes: The Panthers were outgained 344-219 yards last week but forced four turnovers and committed zero. The Trojans have fumbled 12 times, losing eight in two of their three games.

■ King's Academy-Sunnyvale (2-0) at Albany (0-3), 1:30 p.m. Saturday

Last week: King's Academy beat Greenfield 35-31; Albany lost to Berean Christian 27-0

Notes: The Knights have averaged 32 points a game this season. Last year, the teams tied 22-22 on a last-second touchdown pass and two-point conversion run by King's Academy.

BERKELEY — On a gorgeous fall afternoon, host St. Mary's High School scored five unanswered touchdowns and held on for a 33-22 victory over Salesian on Saturday.

The Panthers (2-1) were outgained by the Chieftains 344 yards to 223 but were able to make the big plays when they needed them. St. Mary's senior running back Rolando Oliver, although one of the smaller players on the field, came through big with three touchdowns.

Salesian (2-1) got on the board in the first quarter when their senior left-handed quarterback David Singleton (13 completions in 22 attempts, 232 yards, two touchdowns) found receiver Paulo Ocampo behind the secondary for a 56-yard score.

St. Mary's, after being held to little offensively in the first period, struck back when Oliver scored the first of his three touchdowns on a 23-yard pitch from quarterback Eric Merrida.

After a short punt gave the Panthers excellent field position at the Salesian 30, three plays later Oliver scored again

on a 28-yard pass from Merrida. The point after touchdown failed and St. Mary's led 13-7.

On the next possession, Merrida, a senior who plays cornerback on defense, picked off a pass at his own 29-yard line and ran it 48 yards down the sideline to the Chieftains 23.

Five plays later, St. Mary's was in the end zone, the last 13 yards picked up by Merrida, who scored on a run from the 7-yard line to make the score 19-7. A two-point conversion was successful, giving the Panthers a 21-7 lead at the half.

"I thought Eric's pick was huge for us — it brought us to life," said first-year Panthers coach Bert Bertero.

Fireworks went off on the opening kickoff of the second half when speedy junior return man Robert Stewart, with the help of a great downfield block by Adisa Stewart, galloped 91 yards to paydirt to give the home team a 27-7 lead.

Meanwhile, the Panthers defense was bending but not breaking, as it was able to contain Salesian running

See ST. MARY'S, Page 2



BERKELEY HIGH'S Onu Onu, right, tries to get by Monte Vista's Brandon Hassfield in their game. Onu scored Berkeley's only touchdown in the 24-10 loss.

Guillory runs by Gauchos

By Ben Enos
CORRESPONDENT

Jesse Bethel High School-Vallejo's quarterback Bobby Guillory wasted no time in establishing his presence against the El Cerrito football team as he used his breakaway speed to score from 48 yards out only five minutes into the game.

The problem for the Gauchos quickly became the fact that Guillory just never stopped running.

Behind 144 yards rushing and 128 yards passing from Guillory, the visiting Jaguars broke the game open early against the Gauchos and never looked back, cruising to a 36-14 victory.

El Cerrito (2-1) struck first as it capped a seven-play drive with a 1-yard touchdown run from fullback Justin Plair on the game's opening possession. It would be the Gauchos' only score of the half, however, as their nor-

PREP BOYS ROUNDUP

mally consistent running attack found the going tough against a quick Jaguars defense. The Gauchos finished the night with only 50 yards rushing.

With his defense in control, Guillory simply took over. He followed his opening run by finding senior Anthony Gillespie for touchdown passes of 33 and 65 yards, both in the first half. He would cap his impressive night by finding the end zone from 35 yards out in the fourth quarter, putting the exclamation point on the Jaguars' win.

Leading the Gauchos offensively were senior running back JoElbert Dennis and junior receiver Chris Moncrease. Dennis rushed for 36 yards, while Moncrease ended the night with three catches for 46 yards and a touchdown.

Monte Vista 24, Berkeley 10: After

an injury to Yellow Jackets quarterback Lucas Fogarty in the third quarter Friday, the visiting Yellow Jackets (1-2) struggled to execute offensively against the Mustangs (3-0).

Berkeley junior wide receiver/cornerback Kenneth Adams was pressed into duty at quarterback and put forth an admirable effort. But the crispness that Berkeley demonstrated with Fogarty under center was gone, as was any real threat of the pass, allowing Monte Vista's Mike Costanzo, David Rudberg and John Seroy, among other Mustangs defenders, to pin their ears back and come after Adams.

The result was a net offensive gain of 14 yards in the four ensuing offensive possessions for Berkeley, with 22 of that coming after Mustangs quarterback Drew McAllister scored from

See BOYS, Page 2

St. Mary's coasts to two wins in BSAL volleyball

By Dave Carpenter
STAFF WRITER

After an early scare, the St. Mary's High School girls volleyball team rebounded just fine on Sept. 22 against Holy Names.

The Panthers found themselves down 14-11 in the first game against the Monarchs. After Natalie Bogan's kill made it 14-12, St. Mary's rolled the rest of the way to post a 25-18, 25-13, 25-12 victory.

St. Mary's continued to roll in Bay Shore Athletic League play on Tuesday, as it defeated St. Elizabeth in three games. The Panthers improved to 14-3 overall and 4-0 in the BSAL with Tuesday's win.

On Saturday, St. Mary's went undefeated in the Harbor Tournament. The Panthers won six matches.

St. Mary's defeated Menlo

PREP GIRLS ROUNDUP

Atherton 25-20, 25-16; Chico 25-12, 23-25, 15-7; Aptos 17-25, 25-22, 15-7; Harbor-Santa Cruz 22-25, 25-17, 15-12; San Benito-Hollister 25-13, 21-25, 15-6; and Notre Dame-Salinas 25-19, 25-15.

On Sept. 22, the early lapse proved to be just that, a lapse.

"When we focus, we're one of the top five teams in Northern California," St. Mary's coach Jon Segall said. "We tend to space out at times. I started yelling at them during the timeout, and they got into a rhythm. When they get into a rhythm, they're a great team."

Bogan, a senior, has orally

See GIRLS, Page 2



MIKE MCGREEHAN
Between the Lines

Memories of old PCL live on

TO THOSE OF younger generations, Buzz Arlett, Frenchy Uhalt and Steve Bilko are names maybe seen while perusing some baseball book, or perhaps heard during conversations among elders. But Arlett, Uhalt and Bilko are among the many men who made the Pacific Coast League the jewel of West Coast baseball that it once was.

On Saturday, former players, their families, fans, and those who simply have a great love of baseball history gathered at the Oakland Museum for the annual Pacific Coast League Historical Society Reunion.

Typically, this event takes place in early August. This year's, though, coincided with the Baseball Hall of Fame's "Baseball As America" exhibit, which had opened at the museum a week earlier.

Added together, there was plenty to enjoy for all baseball fans.

A quick peek into the "Baseball By the Bay" companion exhibit revealed photos of some of the "Nine Old Men" from the Oakland Oaks' magical 1948 championship season. Moving to the reunion, a number of those players — Billy Raimondi, Dario Lodigiani, Mel Duezabou, Lloyd Little and Renaldo "Rugger" Ardiola — had turned out to celebrate the league as it once was.

Typical of these gatherings were the anecdotes, memories, perhaps a few tall tales and the renewal of acquaintances that make them special.

As usual, folks brought cards, books and other memorabilia to display. And speaking of the Oaks, Berkeley's Doug McWilliams displayed framed team photos of that illustrious franchise, including those from the championship seasons of 1948 and 1950. The Oaks, who also won PCL titles in 1912 and 1927, were an East Bay mainstay from 1903-1955.

McWilliams, a self-described "red-hot Oaks fan," launched a career through his passion for the team.

"I started going (to Oaks Ball Park in Emeryville) in '48 and just about lived there from '51 on — that's how I started taking pictures of the players," said McWilliams, who went on to a 25-year career as a baseball card photographer, principally for Topps.

McWilliams also befriended some of the Oaks players, including Tommy Munoz, a San Leandro High graduate, who signed with the team at 18 in 1952. Munoz, who played with the Oaks for parts of three seasons, was at the reunion.

After lunch in the museum garden, the reunion went inside to the museum theater. There, event organizer Mark Macrae introduced the PCL veterans in attendance.

Longtime Oaks catcher Billy Raimondi turned out with a large family contingent, prompting PCL Historical Society president Dick Beverage to dub the Raimondis, "the first family of Oakland baseball."

Indeed, Raimondi, now 92, was not the only member of his family to have played in the PCL, as brothers Ernie, Al and Walt also spent time in the league. Ernie Raimondi was killed in World War II, and the West Oakland ballfield formerly known as Bayview Park was renamed in his honor long ago.

Moments later, Beverage recognized the DiMaggios as the "first family of San Francisco Baseball." Representing the DiMaggio family was none other than Dominic DiMaggio, the "Little Professor" himself. The presence of the former San Francisco Seals and Boston Red Sox outfielder made for a surprise treat for those in attendance.

In a touching moment, Beverage also acknowledged Win Currier, the longtime sports-writer for such publications as

See MCGREEHAN, Page 2



ST. MARY'S Tarah Murrey (4) celebrates with her teammates after a point in their BSAL match against Holy Names.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

To submit an item to the What's Happening calendar, e-mail sports@cc-times.com to request a form. Put "What's Happening" in the subject line. Nonprofit organizations only. You may be asked to submit a copy of your 1099 or 501(c)(3) to verify non-profit status. Entries are edited for content and are published as space is available.

BASKETBALL

■ **El Cerrito Youth Baseball** — Registration through Oct. 29 for boys and girls, ages 7-14, for Pony affiliated club. \$135-\$160. 510-215-2939 or visit ecyb.org.

■ **Excellence in Basketball** — Fall signups for competitive boys club teams, grades 6-12, that play squads throughout the East Bay. Scholarships offered for hardship cases. Bob 925-736-8741, elbcoach@aol.com.

SOFTBALL

■ **Montara Bay Adult Softball** — Sign-ups for men's C and D fall league starting in September. Contra Costa County Public Works, 925-313-2005.

JOBS

■ **Mt. Diablo High School** — Vacancies for following head coaching positions: girls varsity and junior varsity basketball; girls freshman soccer. Miguel Romo 925-682-4030 Ext. 2721.

■ **Moraga Ranch Swim Club** — Head coaching vacancy for 2006 swim season for ages 6 and up. The swim club is a member of the Orinda-Moraga Pool Association. Send resume and cover letter to moragaranchcoach@covad.net. 510-502-4274 or visit moragaranch.com.

■ **Clayton Valley High School** — Accepting applications for these head coaching vacancies: girls freshman basketball, boys varsity track, boys varsity swimming, varsity softball and girls varsity lacrosse. Doug Swann 925-672-3110, dswann52@aol.com or Pal Middendorf 925-682-7474 Ext. 4728 pm258@aol.com.

■ **Dublin High School** — Accepting applications for these head coaching vacancies: boys and girls junior varsity soccer, varsity boys volleyball and junior varsity girls basketball. Shawn McHugh 925-833-3305, mchugh-shawn@dublin.k12.ca.us.

■ **City of Dublin** — Hiring softball scorekeepers, basketball officials, gym attendants and league supervisors for youth basketball. Work begins in November and minimum pay is \$8.65 per hour. Volunteer opportunities also for youth basketball coaches two hours per week. 925-

833-6645.

■ **Northgate High School** — Coaching vacancies for girls head varsity and junior varsity soccer, girls head varsity, junior varsity and freshman basketball, head and two assistants for varsity track, boys head varsity tennis, head junior varsity and freshman baseball, and head boys freshman basketball. Bob Johnson, 925-938-0900 Ext. 3520.

■ **Contra Costa Basketball Officials Association** — Welcoming inexperienced and veteran officials for upcoming basketball season. David Bitar 925-938-5426, bjbitar@pacbell.net or visit ccboa.org.

■ **Meadow Swim Club** — Seeking head coach with experience for Orinda-based swim club. 925-253-1954 or byrneclm6@comcast.net.

■ **Alhambra High School** — Vacancy for girls freshman basketball

coach. Mike Aboussle 925-228-8495.

■ **Carondelet High School** — Accepting applications for following positions: head varsity and junior varsity softball. Fax or e-mail resume to Mrs. Green 925-686-5347, ggreen@carondelets.org. 925-686-5353 Ext. 168.

■ **Lionel Wilson College Prep.** — Vacancies for boys and girls head varsity and junior varsity basketball coaches. Located 400 105th Ave., Oakland. 415-652-7726.

■ **Miramonte High School** — Accepting applications for boys head soccer and head varsity and junior varsity lacrosse coaches. Vince Del'Aquila 925-280-3930 Ext. 3451.

■ **Albany High School** — Vacancy for girls head junior varsity soccer coach. Season begins Nov. 7. Fax resume to Debbie Wanlin, 510-528-6429.

■ **Berean Christian High School** —

Coach. Mike Aboussle 925-228-8495. Coaches sought, experienced boys varsity soccer, head man basketball, assistant coach for winter season, head varsity baseball, head junior varsity and head varsity swimming. Lee 925-945-6484 Ext. 2, lee@astound.net.

■ **East Bay Panthers Baseball Club** — Vacancies for head ball clubs seeking coaches for 2006 season. Dave Smith, 925-7851, dave.smith@panthers.org or visit eastbaypanthers.org.

■ **Cornerstone Christian School** — Vacancies for head positions for upcoming season: head/assistant boys basketball coach, assistant girls basketball coach, head/assistant basketball coach, head/assistant basketball coach, head/assistant basketball coach. Applicants must have Christian ethics. Logan Heyer, 925-736-2133 ext. 335.

Boys

FROM PAGE 1

the 1 to put the game out of reach with 1:58 left in the fourth. Before that final possession, Berkeley lost 8 yards in three possessions.

"When your starting quarterback goes down, you've got to change your game plan a little bit," Berkeley coach Matt Bissell said. "The good thing is we found we have a backup."

Monte Vista's plan, after going into the half just 10-7, was clearly to grind away at the Berkeley defense on the ground. Running back Peter Geurts rushed for 96 of his 228 yards in the second half, including his second touchdown with 2:21 left in the third quarter that ended up being the game winner.

St. Mary's

FROM PAGE 1

back Jake Haskell to 83 yards on 20 carries and keep the accurate Singleton out of the scoring column.

Haskell, it should be noted, played hard every down of the game. In addition to his middle linebacker spot, he is the Salesian place-kicker and punter.

With nearly six minutes remaining in the third quarter and Salesian's offense stuck in neutral, St. Mary's started a drive at the Chieftains' 45.

McGreehan

FROM PAGE 1

the Alameda Times-Star and Alameda Journal, who died Aug. 17. Currier covered the PCL in its heyday and was a regular at these reunions. Somehow, Currier's presence — like those of the deceased ballplayers from long past — was felt.

Festivities also included a slide show of PCL Hall of Fame inductees from 2004 and 2005. The PCL Hall of Fame pretty much had been forgotten for a

Onu Onu scored Berkeley's lone touchdown on a 43-yard reverse late in the first half. He also intercepted a McAllister pass in the end zone to end an early Mustangs scoring threat.

■ **Berean Christian 27, Albany 0:** The Eagles (2-1), who held the Cougars (0-3) to 95 total yards, took over the game in the second half by scoring 20 of their 27 points.

Eagles tailback Andrew Knutsen accounted for the bulk of the offense, pounding 111 yards on 20 carries. Quarterback Matt Smith threw for two touchdowns and ran for one. Albany was paced in rushing by Eric Robertson with 86 yards.

CROSS COUNTRY

■ **Berkely 38, St. Joseph Notre Dame 40, Alameda 45:** The Yellow Jackets edged a pair of competitive teams in a Bay

Shore Athletic League tri-meet on Sept. 22 at Crab Cove in Alameda. Sebastian Schwelm was Berkeley's top finisher in fourth place (17 minutes, 49 seconds for the 3.1-mile course). The race was won by Alameda's Arran Rogerson (16:55).

■ **Stanford Invitational:** St. Mary's placed three runners in the top 22 places in the Division IV race Saturday. Matt Duffy was the Panthers' top finisher with a time of 16:48, good for seventh place in the 5,000-meter race. Teammates Erick Berthaldan (18th, 17:16) and Rob Riccardi (21st, 17:19) also had high finishes. St. Mary's finished fifth as a team with 138 points.

Times staff writers Bill Kolb, Robert Jordan and Phil Jensen, and correspondent Chris Lau contributed to this roundup.

game wound down, Singleton hit receiver Andre Wells for a 25-yard touchdown to make it 33-14.

An ensuing inside kick was successful, and on the next play Singleton threw to Ocampo for a 47-yard pass play down to the Panthers 1.

Haskell ran the ball in from the 1, and Singleton ran in the two-point conversion to make the final score 33-22.

For Bertero it was nice to get back in the win column.

"Our defense held up in the run game, and although we got a bit soft there at the end, this is a good win for us," he said.

the major leagues available to West Coast fans.

Carlucci, recalling those days before the Giants and Dodgers moved West, summed it up best.

"The Coast League, in my book, was one fabulous, great league," he said.

Those times — the years of the Oaks, Seals, Sacramento Solons and Hollywood Stars, among others — have passed into history. But memories of those times continue to live through the PCL Historical Society and its wonderful reunions.

Girls

FROM PAGE 1

committed to Rice University. She ended up with nine kills, three blocks and three service aces.

Bernie Leary also contributed with nine kills, to go with eight digs. Setter Cory Burgamy distributed 24 assists and had two aces.

Sophomore standout Tarah Murrey slammed down the fourth of her 15 kills to give St. Mary's its first lead at 16-15 in the opening game.

"She's great," Segall said of Murrey. "In the first two games, I've seen Tarah play better. But when she concentrates, she's one of the best players in Northern California, period."

After that, the Panthers rolled off eight of the game's next nine points to stretch their lead out to 24-16.

St. Mary's never trailed in the second or third games.

■ **St. Mary's d. Chico:** Murrey had 18 kills, nine aces and six digs, and Bogan added 13 kills and five digs in St. Mary's 25-12, 23-25, 15-7 win.

■ **St. Mary's d. Aptos:** Murrey and Bogan had 16 kills and 10 kills apiece, and teammate Burgamy passed for 20 assists in the 17-25, 25-22, 15-7 victory over the Mariners.

■ **St. Mary's d. Harbor-Santa Cruz:** Murrey had a double-double with 19 kills and 14 digs, and Bogan and Laura Challis also reached double figures in kills with 11 and 10 respectively in the 22-25, 25-17, 15-12 win.

■ **St. Mary's d. Notre Dame-Sallinas:** Genny Pezalla had seven kills and Burgamy passed for 27 assists in the win. Murrey paced the Panthers in kills with

nine in the 25-19, 25-15 win.

■ **St. Mary's d. St. Elizabeth:** Bogan and Challis both had six kills in the 25-8, 25-16, 25-13 BSAL victory Tuesday.

■ **Albany d. St. Patrick/St. Vincent:** Jana Poole had a huge double-double with 19 kills and 20 digs, and teammate Arlene Sasse added eight kills and two blocks in the Cougars' 25-17, 25-23, 19-25, 25-19 victory on Sept. 22. Nicky Hagan also had six kills, four aces and four blocks for the Cougars.

■ **Berkely d. Pinole Valley:** The Yellow Jackets won their Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League opener, 25-13, 25-16, 25-21 over the Spartans on Tuesday. Adrian Remiker had 10 assists and five aces for Berkeley, and Emily Carver had nine kills and two blocks. Natalie Gaber also had six kills and two blocks for Berkeley.

CROSS COUNTRY

■ **Alameda 23, St. Joseph Notre Dame 48, Berkeley 60, Holy Names 106:** In her first non-scrimmage race since suffering a stress fracture in her foot four months ago, Berkeley's Kadja Bonet re-debuted in the BSAL with a second-place finish in a time of 20 minutes, 33 seconds on the 3.1 mile course at Crab Cove in Alameda on Sept. 22.

Bonet's time helped the Yellow Jackets finish third behind Alameda and St. Joseph Notre Dame.

Berkeley and Alameda petitioned the North Coast Section to join the BSAL after the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League didn't have enough participating schools. The two schools also ran in the BSAL back in 2003.

Alameda's Devaja Shafer took first with a time of 20:25.

GOLF

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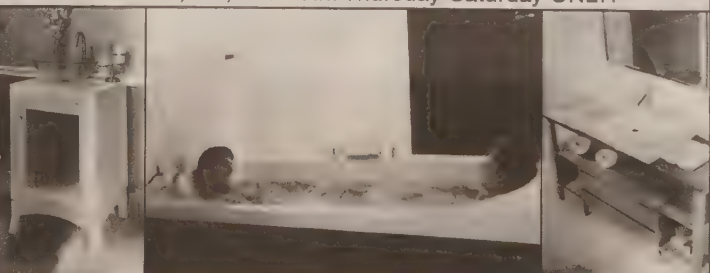
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NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. Reviewers are Mary F. Pols, Randy Myers, Times; Robert W. Butler, Chris Hewitt, Steven Ray and Carrie Rickey, Knight Ridder; Bruce Newman, San Jose Mercury News; David Germain, Christy Lemire, Associated Press; Christine Catolucci, Anita Gates, Steve Kehr, Laura Kern, A.O. Scott and Dana Stevens, New York Times; Amy Ward Daily News; David Kronke, Josh Strauss, Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Carina Chocano, Kevin Crust, Manohla Dargis, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Ed Park, Nancy Churnin, Gary Dowell, Tom Maustad, Churnin, Gary Dowell, Tom Maustad, Morning News; Jan Stuart, Newsday; Jay Boyar and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Carla Meyer, Sacramento River; Ty Burr, Wesley Morris, Boston Globe; Peter Persall, St. Petersburg Times; Curt Fields, Ann Hornaday, Stephen Hunter, Philip Kennicott, Michael O'Sullivan, Desson Thomson, Washington Post; Hanh Nguyen, Zap2.com.

"THE ARISTOCRATS": A documentary about the art of telling a joke. And not just any joke, but an incredibly raunchy one that every comedian worth his or her salt knows. Among the cast are Phyllis Diller, Robin Williams, Chris Rock, Richard Lewis, and on and on. A great peek into the inner world of comedy. — M. Pols. (Not rated; but filled with obscene language.) 1 hour, 26 minutes. **B+**

"BALZAC AND THE LITTLE CHINESE SEAMSTRESS": Two city boys bring unheard-of talents, ranging from violin playing to literacy to the ability to read a clock, to a remote hamlet in Sichuan. For their part, the sophisticated young men just want to have fun. This manifests in two forms: the pretty, unnamed title girl (Xun Zhou), and a secret stash of forbidden Western books, which they take turns reading to the uneducated but eager-to-learn seamstress. — B. Strauss. (Not rated; contains language, sex, mild violence; in Mandarin and French with subtitles.) 1 hour, 51 minutes. **B**

"BROKEN FLOWERS": We meet middle-aged Don (Bill Murray) as he's being dumped by his live-in lover (Julie Delpy). On the same day, an unassigned letter informs Don that he unknowingly fathered a son 19 years

earlier and that the boy may be on a quest to find his father. Don sets off on a cross-country journey to look for the four women he loved and left some 20 years before and to figure out who might have borne him a child. A beautifully acted and intelligent movie that, alas, doesn't work as well as it should. With Sharon Stone, Frances Conroy, Jessica Lange, and Tilda Swinton. — M. Pols. (R; language, some graphic nudity, brief drug use.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. **B**

"THE BROTHERS GRIMM": Matt Damon and Heath Ledger portray the German folklorist brothers, who (in this fictionalized scenario) make a living by exorcising their barns of spirits, demons, witches and the like. The plot thickens when it turns out that whatever has been abducting the children of the village is, in fact, supernatural. — M. O'Sullivan. (PG-13; spooky supernatural events, some gruesome imagery, occasional obscenity.) 1 hour, 58 minutes. **C-**

"CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY": Tim Burton's take on Roald Dahl's book is darker, stranger and way cooler than the 1971 Gene Wilder cinematic classic. Visually it's all Burton, a fairy tale come to life. Johnny Depp's Willy Wonka is like a cross between Michael Jackson and Carol Channing, which sounds terrifying, but is instead captivating. A don't-miss summer movie that should live on for decades to come. — M. Pols. (PG; quirky situations, mild language.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. **A-**

"THE CONSTANT GARDENER": In this excellent adaptation of John Le Carré's novel, Ralph Fiennes portrays a British diplomat, a hapless good guy who seems to be a doormat. But when his activist wife is killed in the film's first moments, the character evolves to reveal unathletic depths. Director Fernando Meirelles makes Kenya part of his story, as he did with Rio in the Oscar-nominated "City of God." — M. Pols. (R; language, some violent images, sexual content, nudity.) 2 hours, 9 minutes. **A-**

"CORPSE BRIDE": Tim Burton returns to the dazzling world of stop-motion animation for this clever romp through a literary boneyard for its inspiration. The "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" director follows up that summer success with this macabre and sweet confection, wherein an unlucky-in-love corpse (voice of Helena Bonham Carter) gets

another chance at the altar. But this relationship has issues; not only is the object of her affection (voice of Johnny Depp) already engaged, he's alive. — R. Myers. (PG; some scary images and action, and brief mild language.) 1 hour, 17 minutes. **B**

"EL CRIMEN PERFECTO": In this antic and outrageous black comedy, Rafael Gonzalez (Guillermo Toledo) is a salesman in the ladies' department of a Madrid, Spain, department store. The suave womanizing Rafael's fondest dream is to be made floor manager. When his archrival, Don Antonio (Luis Varela), is named to the position instead, Rafael's world begins to unravel. — D. Stevens. (Not rated; in Spanish with subtitles.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. **B+**

"DEAR BENDY": Set in a grungy Southern mining town, where protagonist Dick Dandelion teams up with the town's other young losers to form the Dandies, a secret society who profess their pacifism while becoming more ballistically knowledgeable than your average Navy SEAL. The Dandies' reverie is upset when local cop Krusby (Bill Pullman) makes Dick the probation guardian for a young African-American killer. — B. Strauss. (Not rated; violence, nudity, language, racism.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. **C**

"EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED": For his directing debut, Liev Schreiber has boiled down Jonathan Safran Foer's bizarre novel into something a little more conventional. But only a little. The lead character, also named Jonathan Safran Foer (Elijah Wood), goes searching around Ukraine for an ancestral village destroyed during the Holocaust. He hires a young Ukrainian man and his grumpy, blind grandfather to help him find the mystery woman who, family legend has it, saved his grandfather's life during the German occupation. — B. Strauss. (PG-13; violence, language.) 1 hour, 42 minutes. **B**

"THE EXORCISM OF EMILY ROSE": Are demons real, or a manifestation of mental illness? Do exorcisms work because they tap into the power of God, or because the sufferer has been preconditioned to respond? This film explores both sides while delivering some creepy chills. Laura Linney plays an attorney assigned to defend a rural priest charged with homicide. His parishioner Emily Rose succumbed after months of torment by what the priest is convinced was demonic presence. — R. Butler. (PG-

13; thematic material, including intense/frightening sequences and disturbing images.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. **C**

"FANTASTIC FOUR": This big-screen adaptation of the Marvel Comic superhero story line is rarely terrible or memorable. Four astronauts return from space, where they were exposed to cosmic radiation, with new abilities. This film has very little of the epic gravitas or moral complexity that distinguish the best superhero movies. That would be fine if it were an overflowing boatload of fun. But it's not. — C. Vogner. (PG-13; comic book violence, suggestive content.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. **C**

"FLIGHTPLAN": Jody Foster plays a woman who wakes up on a trans-Atlantic flight claiming that her daughter is missing. The actress walks that tightrope between "Is she paranoid?" and "Should she be?" with such conviction and panic that she makes this "Twilight Zone" nightmare plausible and horrific. — R. Moore. (PG-13; violence, intense plot material.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. **B**

"THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN": Unabashedly raunchy, yet funny enough to keep you entertained through its feel-good finish. Steve Carell (from TV's "The Office") plays Andy, a middle-aged man who, because of a bad encounter or three, has decided that it's best to avoid women and concentrate on building his collection of action figures. But when his doofus co-workers discover his status, they make it their mission to get their friend some sex. With Catherine Keener. — G. Whipp. (R; pervasive sexual content, language, some drug use.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. **B**

"FOUR BROTHERS": Borrowing from a Western revenge tale, this scruffy, sadistic and occasionally entertaining modern-day parable takes place in Detroit. Evelyn Merce (Fionnula Flanagan) is still teaching kids important lessons about life and the right road when we meet her, then she's gunned down in her convenience store. The Mercer boys reunite for her funeral and to spill whatever blood it takes to avenge their mother's death. — R. Moore. (R; strong violence, pervasive language, some sexual content.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. **C**

"GRIZZLY MAN": Timothy Treadwell, an animal lover who spent 13 summers living among Alaska's grizzly bears, emerges as a lost soul in Werner Herzog's sly and captivating

OPENING TODAY

"THE FUTURE OF FOOD" (NR) Genetically engineered food is the focus of this documentary that casts a critical eye on the industry. At the Shattuck in Berkeley.

"THE GREATEST GAME EVER PLAYED" (PG) An amateur with a 10-year-old caddy stuns the golf world by challenging the champ in the 1913 U.S. Open. Based on a true story.

"I AM CUBA" (NR) This documentary about Russian filmmaker Sergei Eisenstein's propaganda masterpiece is a strange hybrid of communist kitsch and Latin sensuality.

"INTO THE BLUE" (PG-13) The surf's up and the bathing suits are skimpy in this thriller in which bimboes find a treasure that could kill them.

"KEANE" (R) A man desperately searching for his 6-year-old daughter, missing

for months, becomes attached to a woman and her child.

"MIRROR MASK" (PG) The dark fantasy world of author Neil Gaiman comes to the big screen in this tale about a girl stepping into the woods.

"OLIVER TWIST" (PG-13) Oscar-winning director Roman Polanski revisits the oft-filmed Charles Dickens classic about a plucky orphan.

"THE PRIZE WINNER OF DEFIANCE, OHIO" (PG-13) A 1950s mother of 10 (Julianne Moore) hopes to compose a jingle that will ring up some cash. Based on a true story.

"SERENITY" (PG-13) TV isn't the final frontier for the short-lived Fox TV series "Firefly." The creator of TV's "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" hopes to elevate the cult status of his space Western by bringing it to the movies.

new documentary. Based on Treadwell's own video footage, the film documents his affection for the bears, his seething anger at society, his raging narcissism, his paranoid fantasy life, and, finally, the ridiculously sad deaths of Treadwell and his girlfriend in 2003 — in the maw of a wild grizzly. — P. Kennicott. (R; profanity, disturbing situations.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. **B**

"HELLBENT": This self-proclaimed first gay slasher film has pleasure-seekers stalked through West Hollywood's Halloween carnival by a sickle-wielding killer in a devil mask. The joke is that everyone is dressed and acting so freaky, Devil Man barely gets noticed. That is, until someone realizes that the decapitated corpses left in his wake aren't really well-made holiday decorations. — B. Strauss. (Not rated; violence, sex, nudity, drug use, language.) 1 hour, 25 minutes. **C+**

"A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE": One act of violence triggers another, which leads to another and another in director David Cronenberg's latest head trip. Viggo Mortensen plays an all-American dad who finds his family being haunted by a menacing man (Ed Harris) after he thwarts a robbery at his diner. The sexually graphic and gory film meditates on violence, identity and the American dream. It's not for the squeamish, but it is one of the year's most powerful and unsettling films. — R. Myers. (R; strong brutality, violence, graphic sexuality, nudity, language, some drug use.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. **A-**

"JUNEBUG": There are stereotypes in this movie; moralism, too. But first-time feature director Angus MacLachlan and an extraordinary cast (notably newcomer Amy Adams) find gnarly human truths in the material. A big-city gallery operator comes to the South to persuade a talented primitive artist to let her represent his artwork. — B. Strauss. (R; sex, nudity, language, racism, violence.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. **B+**

"JUST LIKE HEAVEN": Despite a too-weighty plot revelation in its final act, this bit of romantic fluff often works thanks to its two leads — Mark Ruffalo and Reese Witherspoon. She plays the blithe spirit who returns to her San Francisco apartment only to find it has been sublet to a sad but cute man (Ruffalo). The two try to fill in the blanks of their lives in a romantic comedy that is almost defeated by the introduction of the serious topic. Ruffalo steals the show. — R. Myers. (PG-13; some sexual content.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. **B-**

"LORD OF DOG": Blood oozes,

seeps and spatters, and yet this movie/sermon feels bloodless. Nicolas Cage plays Yuri Orlov, a Ukrainian emigre who rises from under-the-table gun seller to international gun runner. With brother Vitali (Jared Leto) guarding his back, we watch Yuri's 20-year climb. Yuri deals in cash-and-carry, and he fast-talks his way out of death a dozen times. He doesn't take sides, and every time a shell casing bounces out of a chamber in Sierra Leone or Liberia, he hears a "cha-ching." — R. Moore. (R; strong violence, drug use, language, sexuality.) 2 hours. **B**

"MAD HOT BALLROOM": This documentary follows several teams of pre-adolescent student dancers from New York as they train for the nerve-racking competition that caps the American Ballroom Theater's "Dancing Classrooms" program. There's inherent drama built into any contest, and the filmmakers make the most of the fact — without milking it for cheap sentiment — that there will not just be winners, but losers. — M. O'Sullivan. (PG; some mild references to sex and violence.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. **B+**

"MARCH OF THE PENGUINS": A stunningly beautiful documentary about the mating habits of Emperor penguins. Makes you feel like a kid again — curious, excited and enraptured by a story that has nothing to do with humans, not to mention Morgan Freeman narrating in his soothing, rich-as-caramel voice. The only unfortunate aspect is the way director Luc Jacquet anthropomorphizes the birds, incorporating human ideals of love into the screenplay. It's unnecessary; the remarkable story of the penguins can more than stand alone. Still, this is the perfect family movie. — M. Pols. (G) 1 hour, 20 minutes. **B+**

"ME AND YOU AND EVERYONE WE KNOW": A deliberately quirky romance about a sad-sack divorced shoe salesman (John Hawkes) and the video performance artist (Miranda July) who falls for him. Equal attention is paid to story lines involving his children and their friends, which infuses the movie with charm and comedy. July writes and directs as well, and she's a considerable talent, especially when it comes to getting naturalistic performances out of children. However, some may find her style too precious, and others will (rightly) challenge the tastefulness of a subplot involving Internet sex chat. — M. Pols. (R; disturbing sexual content involving children, and for language.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. **B**

See MOVIES, Page C4

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Alameda County

Ad 1 and 2
213 Center Street, Berkeley 510-464-5980
4046 (R) 5, 8
eMovie Velvet (R) 12
eMovie Mask (PG) 4, 7, 9, 25

Albany Twin
1115 Solano Ave., Albany 510-464-5980
eMovie Everything Is Illuminated 2, 4, 25, 7, 9, 20
eMovie March Penguins (G) 2, 30, 4, 40, 6, 45, 8, 45

AMC Bay Street 16
581 Shellmound St., Emeryville 510-457-4262
eMovie Broken Flowers (R) 1:55, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40
eMovie The Brothers Grimm (PG-13) 2:30, 5:35, 8:40
eMovie Charlie & the Chocolate Factory 2:15, 5:05, 7:55, 10:45

City Wolf (PG-13) 8:20, 10:30
eMovie Exorcism of Emily Rose 2:25, 5:20, 8, 10:35
eMovie Four Brothers (R) 2:20, 4:50, 7:40, 10:05
eMovie Greatest Game Ever Played (PG) 1:15, 4, 7, 9, 25

Green Street Hooligans (R) 2:40, 5, 7:25, 10, 10:35
eMovie Her Shoes (PG-13) 7:30
eMovie Into the Blue (PG-13) 1:35, 2:35, 4:05, 5:10, 7:05, 8:05, 9:40, 10:40

Just Like Heaven (PG-13) 1, 2:05, 3:10, 4:35, 5:25, 7:10, 8:10, 9:25, 10:20
eMovie Lord of War (R) 1:05, 1:45, 3:50, 4:55, 6:50, 7:40, 9:35, 10:25
eMovie Proof (PG-13) 2:10, 5:10, 7:35, 10:10
eMovie Stolen Bounce 2, 2:45, 4:40, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15, 10:50

California Theatre
2113 Broadway, Berkeley 510-464-5980
eMovie The Aristocrats (Not Rated) 1:15, 3:20, 5:20
eMovie Corpse Bride 11, 12, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 10:30

Chabot Space & Science Center
1000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland 510-336-7300
eMovie Forces of Nature (Not Rated) 8
eMovie The Living Sea (Not Rated) 7
eMovie Solarmax (Not Rated) 6

Renaissance Grand Lake
320 Grand Avenue, Oakland 510-452-3556
eMovie The Constant Gardener (R) 1, 4, 7, 9, 40
eMovie Flightplan (PG-13) 12, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:20
eMovie Just Like Heaven 12:15, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10, 10:30
eMovie Corpse Bride 11:20, 1:30, 3:45, 6, 7, 45, 9, 9:30

Oaks Theatre
105 Solano Avenue, Berkeley 510-526-1836
eMovie The Greatest Game Ever Played (PG) 1:10, 4, 6:45, 9:30
eMovie Occupation: Dreamland (NR) 1, 3, 5, 7:15, 9:40

Parkway Speakeasy Theatre
134 Park Blvd., Oakland 510-814-2400
eMovie The Aristocrats (Not Rated) 9:45
eMovie Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (PG)

Alonebug (R) 6:30
eMovie Wedding Crashers (R) 9:15

Piedmont Theatre
4106 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-464-6980
eMovie March Penguins (G) 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:15
eMovie Oliver Twist (PG-13) 12:45, 3:45, 6:40, 9:25
eMovie Proof (PG-13) 1:15, 4, 7, 9, 35

Regal Jack London
101 Washington, Oakland 510-433-1320
eMovie The Exorcism of Emily Rose (PG-13) 1:15, 2:15, 5, 7:45, 10:30

Flightplan 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
eMovie History of Violence 12:10, 2:30, 4:45, 7, 9:30
eMovie Into the Blue 11:45, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 10, 10:30
eMovie Just Like Heaven 11:45, 2:05, 4:30, 7:05, 9:30

Lord of War (R) 11:30, 2:15, 5, 7:45, 10:30
eMovie Roll Bounce 11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
eMovie Serenity (PG-13) 12, 2:45, 5:20, 8, 10:40
eMovie Tim Burton's Corpse Bride (PG) 11:40, 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40

Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-464-5980
eMovie Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress (Not Rated) 1:20, 4, 6:50, 9:25
eMovie El Crimen Perfecto (Not Rated) 4:45, 10, 10:30
eMovie The Exorcism of Emily Rose (PG-13) 1:25, 4:05, 6:55, 9:30

Flightplan (PG-13) 2, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40
eMovie The Future of Food (Not Rated) 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:20
eMovie Grizzly Man (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55
eMovie Junebug (R) 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:20

Lord of War (R) 1:15, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50
eMovie Me and You and Everyone We Know (R) 2:10, 7:25
eMovie Oliver Twist (PG-13) 1, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35
eMovie Serenity (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:45

United Artists Berkeley 7
2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-1487
eMovie 40 Year-Old Virgin (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15
eMovie Constant Gardener (R) 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

eMovie History of Violence (R) 1, 3:20, 5:40, 8, 10:20
eMovie Her Shoes (PG-13) 7:30
eMovie Into the Blue 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30
eMovie Proof (PG-13) 12, 2:20, 4:40, 7, 10, 10:30
eMovie Roll Bounce (PG-13) 11:55, 2:30, 5, 10:30
eMovie Thumbsucker (R) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05

United Artists Emery Bay *
6330 Christie Ave., Emeryville 510-420-0107
eMovie 40 Year-Old Virgin (R) 1:20, 4:15, 7:15, 10, 10:30
eMovie Constant Gardener (R) 1:15, 4:20, 7:30, 10:20
eMovie Flightplan (PG-13) 12:30, 1:30, 3, 4:30, 5:30, 7:10, 7:50, 9:40, 10:30

eMovie History of Violence (R) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15
eMovie Oliver Twist (PG-13) 12:45, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10
eMovie Serenity (PG-13) 1, 1:45, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9:50, 10:40
eMovie Tim Burton's Corpse Bride (PG) 12:40, 1:30, 2:45, 3:30, 4:45, 5:40, 7, 7:45, 9:30, 10:10

Central Contra Costa

Renaissance Orinda Theatre
4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-0960
eMovie An Unfinished Life (PG-13) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9
eMovie The Constant Gardener (R) 1, 4, 7, 9:40
eMovie A History of Violence (R) 12, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:20

Rheem All Stadium 4
350 Park St., Moraga 925-986-3411
Call theatre for movies and times

West Contra Costa

Century 16 Hilltop
3200 Klose Way, Richmond 510-758-2345
eMovie The 40 Year-Old Virgin (R) 11:25, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55
eMovie The Constant Gardener (R) 11:55, 2:40,

7:25
eMovie Cry Wolf (PG-13) 5:20, 10:10
eMovie The Exorcism of Emily Rose (PG-13) 12:05, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25
eMovie Flightplan (PG-13) 12:10, 1:10, 2:25, 3:25, 4:40, 5:40, 7:05, 8:05, 9:20, 10:20

The Greatest Game Ever Played (PG) 11:35, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15
eMovie A History of Violence (R) 11:45, 2, 4:25, 7, 9:35
eMovie Into the Blue (PG-13) 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
eMovie Just Like Heaven (PG-13) 12:25, 2:45, 4:55, 7:10, 9:25

Lord of War (R) 11:40, 2:20, 5, 7:40, 10:20
eMovie Roll Bounce (PG-13) 12, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
eMovie Tim Burton's Corpse Bride (PG) 11:30, 12:45, 2:15, 3:35, 5, 6:15, 7:45, 9, 10:30

Tim Burton's Corpse Bride (PG) 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30
eMovie The Transporter 2 (PG-13) 12:40, 3:05, 5:25, 7:55, 10, 10:30

San Francisco

AMC Van Ness 14
1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415-922-4262
eMovie The 40 Year-Old Virgin (R) 11:25, 1:50, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45
eMovie The Exorcism of Emily Rose (PG-13) 12:20, 3, 5:35, 8:25, 11:10

Flightplan (PG-13) 11:50, 1, 2:10, 3:30, 4:15, 5:55, 7, 8:30, 9:30, 11:05
eMovie The Greatest Game Ever Played (PG) 11:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 10, 10:30
eMovie A History of Violence (R) 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45
eMovie Her Shoes (PG-13) 7:30
eMovie Into the Blue (PG-13) 11:35, 2:05, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50

Just Like Heaven (PG-13) 12:50, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:40
eMovie Lord of War (R) 1:30, 4:55, 7:50, 10:50
eMovie The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio (PG-13) 11:30, 1:45, 4:20, 7, 9:20, 11:30
eMovie Roll Bounce (PG-13) 11:45, 2:15, 5:05, 7:35, 10:30

Serenity (PG-13) 11:15, 2, 5, 8, 11
eMovie Tim Burton's Corpse Bride (PG) 11:40, 11:40, 12:30, 1:40, 1:40, 2:30, 3:45, 3:45, 4:50, 5:50, 5:50, 7:10, 8:05, 8:05, 9:15, 10:15, 10:15, 11:15

AMC Kabuki 8
1881 Post Street, San Francisco 415-922-4262
eMovie The 40 Year-Old Virgin (R) 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
eMovie The Constant Gardener (R) 1, 4, 7, 10
eMovie Flightplan (PG-13) 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20

Into the Blue (PG-13) 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15
eMovie Just Like Heaven (PG-13) 12:45, 3:10, 5:30, 8, 10:40
eMovie Roll Bounce (PG-13) 1:50, 4:30, 7:05, 10:05
eMovie Serenity (PG-13) 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:30
eMovie Tim Burton's Corpse Bride (PG) 12:50, 3, 5:10, 7:40, 9:50

Bridge Theatre
3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 415-267-4883
eMovie The Aristocrats (Not Rated) 1, 3:10, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45

Castro Theatre
429 Castro St., San Francisco 415-621-6120
eMovie East of Eden (PG) 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30

Clay Theatre
2261 Filmore Street, San Francisco 415-267-4883
eMovie Akira (R) 12
eMovie March of the Penguins (G) 12, 2:15, 4:30, 7, 9:15

Embarcadero Center Cinemas

1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 415-267-4893
eMovie 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 9:50
eMovie Broken Flowers (R) 1, 4, 7, 9:40
eMovie Everything Is Illuminated (PG-13) 12:20

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ALL IN BY MATT SKOCZEN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

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11 Go (for)
14 Famed Chicago hotel
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23 Dredging boats that have run aground?
25 Runs for no purpose
26 Long stretch
27 Go for the gold?
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30 One calling at peak times?
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99 [Not again!] and [I can't!]
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105 L.A. version
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107 Tassiana

11 Bruce who appeared in "Suspicion"
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115 Comfy footwear
116 Shade of green
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124 Famous Indy 500 family
125 Neil Armstrong's middle name
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127 Crosswalk users, for short
128 Shirley who sang "Goldfinger"
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12 Money replaced by coins
13 QB stats
14 Icicle feature
15 1984 Patrick Swayze film, the first movie released with a PG-13 rating
16 "I'll do that!"
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18 Brief strangers?
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24 Imperfection
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32 Accesses the Web
34 Hebrew name meaning "He is my God"
36 Can. province
38 Kind of skirt
39 Kitchen item: Abbr.
40 Perfume holder
41 They make people raise their hands
42 Goggles (up)
43 Historical novelist
44 Fellini or Godard work
49 Acronymic pop group name
50 Transfer
51 Tennis score
53 Expensive
56 Big Ten initia
57 Poetic preposition
58 VCR speed meas.
59 Absolute bliss
60 Turn dark
63 Look toward
66 R. J. Reynolds pack
68 Bow
70 Rustic setting
71 Capt's. inferior
72 Flemish painter Jan van
73 Dines
76 Angler's basket
79 "Easy as pie!"
82 Grant and others
83 TV comic who wrote "If Roast Beef Could Fly"
84 Longnet piece
85 1997 Peter Fonda role
87 Humanitarian
91 Foreign fiber
92 Common temple name
93 In high repute
94 Half of a double-header, maybe
96 Certs competitor
97 Menace
99 Place to work out
101 Like response
102 Inner feature
103 Woman's shoe style
104 Far-thing grip
108 Some blades
109 English distance
110 Smart
112 Place of bliss
114 "That is — expected"
115 Fr. ladies
117 Civil War units
118 Troop group
119 Outmoded
120 within
121 Sound of a leak

Movies

FROM PAGE C3

"THE MEMORY OF A KILLER": One film genre in need of a new twist is the crime caper in which a brilliantly capable but good-hearted criminal is sucked back in for one last job. The criminal here is a sixtiesomething contract killer named Angelo Ladda (Jan Deceir), who is rapidly advancing toward full-blown Alzheimer's disease. He agrees to travel to Belgium to kill two people before he retires. The first hit is relatively simple, but the second is impossible, involving a young girl. — M. Pols. (R: violence, sexuality and nudity; in Dutch and French with subtitles.) 2 hours. B

"PROOF": There's a lot of talent in front of and behind the cameras for this screen version of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play. Unfortunately, Oscar winners Gwyneth Paltrow and Anthony Hopkins, along with nearly everyone else, seem to be off their mark. There's some great writing, but in the end, this production of a smart tale about family, madness and genius simply doesn't add up. — R. Myers. (PG-13: some sexual content, language and drug content.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. C

"RED EYE": In Wes Craven's air-plane thriller, Lisa (Rachel McAdams) finds herself seated next to the charming fellow she met in the Dallas airport (played by Cillian Murphy). But upon takeoff, he reveals that her father will be killed unless she helps him assassinate a government official. Once the ominous tone is set, this claustrophobic scare-fest never loses altitude. — B. Strauss. (PG-13: intense sequences

of violence and language.) 1 hour, 25 minutes. B

"ROLL BOUNCE": In this '70s roller boogie comedy-drama-romance, Bow Wow plays Xavier (or "X"), who pals around with his skate buddies. The whole endeavor is set against the backdrop of the socioeconomic disparity between Chicago's South Side — where X and his friends live — and the wealthier North Side, where they're forced to skate once their run-down local rink closes. It's all formulaic, but Bow Wow is likable enough to make most of the movie tolerable. — C. Lemire. (PG-13: language, some crude humor.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. C+

"SKY HIGH": For Will Stronghold, it seems that everyone at his new high school is cooler than he is; maybe that's because they have superpowers. Sky High is where superheroes send their kids to learn how to use their abilities. But despite being the son of two super-heroes, (Kurt Russell and Kelly Preston), Will can't leap tall buildings in a single bound or do anything else particularly impressive. — N. Churnin. (PG: action violence, some mild language.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. B+

"THUMB-SUCKER": In the title role, Lou Pucci plays Justin Cobb, a pale, thin 17-year-old who still sucks his thumb, much to the consternation of his parents. He doesn't fit in neatly with his peers, or in the classroom, yet winds up on the debate team. This at once enrages and challenges his coach (Vince Vaughn), who declares that Justin suffers from attention-deficit disorder and suggests Ritalin. A break-out role for the young performer, but the movie offers nothing we haven't already seen. — K. Thomas.

(R: drug/alcohol use and sexuality involving teens, coarse language, and disturbing image.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. C

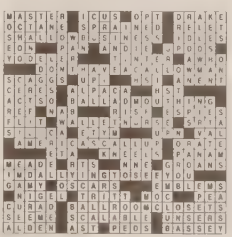
"TONY TAKITANI": A clothing obsession becomes a profound existential predicament. Tony Takitani, for most of his life, has mistaken loneliness for independence. Now middle-aged, he realizes he's completely alone. Then he meets a woman, Eiko, whom he invites to lunch and soon asks to be his wife. Not only is she pretty and 15 years younger, but she has an extraordinary fashion sense. — W. Morris. (Not rated; in Japanese with subtitles.) 1 hour, 15 minutes. C-

"TOUCH THE SOUND": Subtitled "A sound journey with Evelyn Glennie," this impressionistic documentary is a mystical exploration of the sensory world as experienced by a renowned musician who lost most of her hearing by the time she was a teenager. Directed by Thomas Riedelsheimer, who also made "Rivers and Tides." — S. Holden. (Not rated.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. B+

"TRANSPORTER 2": This laughably awful sequel has Jason Statham reprise his role as Frank Martin, the crackjack no-questions-asked driver for hire. This time, Frank has moved to Miami, where he lives the quiet life as chauffeur to a 6-year-old, a rich kid with whom the former mercenary has forged a bond. Then, of course, the boy is kidnapped, forcing Frank to resume his fightin' ways to rescue his little buddy. — D. Germain. (PG-13: intense sequences of violent action, sexual content, partial nudity, brief language.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. D

"2046": Writer-director Kar Wai's

Wong's rendering of 1960s Hong Kong is visually mesmerizing, but beneath the surface, there's little substance to the characters or situations. Tony Leung reprises his role from "In the Mood for Love" as Mr. Chow, formerly an idealistic newspaper editor who now writes soapy fiction just to scrape by. The film follows him as he hooks up with various women he meets while living at a hotel — the rotating inhabitants of room 2046. — C. Lemire. (R: sexual content; in Cantonese, Japanese and Mandarin with subtitles.) 2 hours, 9 minutes. B-



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Events

RAIL AREA RAIL TRAILS — Ongoing. A network of trails converted from unused railway corridors. Free.

HEAVETTE/MORAGA TRAIL — ongoing. A 7.75-mile paved trail converted from the Sacramento Northern Railroad. This 20-year old trail goes along Lake Trampas Creek. Suitable for walkers and cyclists. Runs from Olympic Boulevard and Pleasant Hill Road in Lafayette to Moraga. (510) 835-0135, ext. 0138.

PHONE GREENWAY — ongoing. A 3.75-mile paved trail converted from the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway. Suitable for strollers and walkers. The trail runs under elevated BART tracks from Condon and Key Streets in El Cerrito to Virginia and Acorn Streets in Berkeley. (510) 215-4382, (510) 528-5759 or (510) 644-6566.

SAN RAMON VALLEY IRON HORSE TRAIL — ongoing. The trail has grown into a 26-mile path between Concord and San Ramon with a link into Dublin. The trail runs from the north end of Monument Boulevard off state Highway 242 in Concord through Walnut Creek to just south of Village Green Park in San Ramon. It will eventually extend from Suisun Bay to Pleasanton and has been nominated as a Community Millennium Trail under the U.S. Millennium Trails program. A smooth shaded trail suitable for walkers, cyclists, skaters and strollers. (510) 635-0135, ext. 0138.

SHEPHERD CANYON TRAIL — ongoing. A 3-mile paved trail converted from the Sacramento Northern Railroad. The tree-lined trail is gently sloping and generally follows Shepherd Canyon Road. Suitable for walkers and cyclists. Begins in Montclair Village behind McCaulou's Department Store on Medau Place and ends at Paso Robles Drive, Oakland. (510) 238-7275.

BERKELEY CITY CLUB TOURS — Ongoing. Guided tours through Berkeley's City Club, a landmark building designed by architect Julia Morgan, designer of Hearst Castle. \$2 per person. The fourth Sunday of every month, noon and 4 p.m. 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-7800.

BLACK PANTHER LEGACY TOUR — Ongoing. A bus tour of 18 sites significant in the history of the Black Panther Party, conducted by the Huey P. Newton Foundation. \$20 to \$25 general; \$15 students. Last Saturday of the month, noon to 2:30 p.m. West Oakland Branch Library, 1801 Adeline St., Oakland. (510) 986-0660 or www.blackpanthertours.com.

CAMRON-STANFORD HOUSE — Ongoing. The Camron-Stanford House, an 1876 Italianate-style home that was at one time the Oakland Public Museum, has been restored and furnished with appropriate period furnishings by the Camron-Stanford House Preservation Association. It is the last Victorian house on Lake Merritt's shore. Call ahead to confirm tours and hours. \$5 general; \$4 seniors; \$3 youths age 12 to 18; free children ages 11 and under when accompanied by a paying adult; free the first Sunday of the month. Second and third Wednesdays of the month, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; third Sunday of the month, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. 1418 Lakeside Drive at 14th Street, Oakland. (510) 444-1876 or www.cshouse.org.

"Monday Evening Talks," Ongoing. 7:30 p.m. Prior to each Saturday field trip, there is a Monday night talk at the Montclair Presbyterian Church in Oakland. \$5 per person if not enrolled in the "Close to Home" year-long program.

"Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta," Oct. 15. Board the Tule Queen River Boat and go on a tour of the Sacramento-San Joaquin delta. Migratory birds will be just arriving. \$360 per person for yearlong participation; \$30 additional for binder with written materials. Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Drive, Oakland. (510) 655-6658, (510) 601-5715 or www.close-to-home.org.

DUNSMUIR HOUSE AND GARDENS HISTORIC ESTATE — Ongoing. THE HOUSE IS CLOSED FOR THE WINTER — Nestled in the Oakland hills, the 50-acre Dunsmuir House and Gardens estate includes the 37-room Neoclassical Revival Dunsmuir Mansion, built by coal and lumber baron Alexander Dunsmuir for his bride. Restored outbuildings set amid landscaped gardens surround the mansion.

ESTATE GROUNDS — ongoing. Self-Guided Grounds Tours are available year around. The 50 acres of gardens and grounds at the mansion are open to the public for walking Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Booklets and maps of the grounds are available at the Dinkelspiel House. Free. Dunsmuir House and Gardens, 2960 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland. (510) 615-5555 or www.dunsmuir.org.

CLOSE TO HOME: EXPLORING NATURE'S TREASURES IN THE EAST BAY — Ongoing. A yearlong program of monthly talks and Saturday outings about the natural history of the East Bay. In this hands-on program learn about the plants, wildlife and watershed of the East Bay's incredibly rich and dynamic bioregion. The 12 Saturday outings will take place in either Alameda or Contra Costa counties. The 10 talks at the Montclair Presbyterian Church will be on the Monday prior to the Saturday outing. A notebook of relevant readings and resources for each outing is available to all participants for an additional \$30 per person. The program is cosponsored by the Oakland Museum of California, BayNature Magazine, and Earthlight Magazine. Fee for the year covers all outings, talks, site fees, orientation, and a party.

EAST BAY FARMERS MARKETS - ALAMEDA COUNTY —

EMERYVILLE SATURDAY CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKET — Ongoing. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Through November. A chance to buy fresh fruits and vegetables, cut flowers, baked goods and more. Bay and Shellwood Streets, Emeryville. (800) 949-FARM

ALAMEDA CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKET — Ongoing. A chance to buy local organic produce, baked goods and flowers. Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Taylor Avenue and Webster Street, Alameda (800) 949-FARM

BERKELEY CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKET — Ongoing. A chance to buy local organic produce, baked goods and flowers. The three markets operate rain or shine. Tuesday Market: Tuesday, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Derby Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Thursday Organic Market: Through December: Thursday, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Shattuck Avenue and Cedar Street. Saturday Market: Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Center Street at Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley. (510) 548-3333.

OAKLAND CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKETS — Ongoing. A chance to buy local organic produce and baked goods.

East Oakland Market: Through November: Friday, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. 73rd Avenue and International Boulevard (510) 838-1742.

East Oakland Senior Center: Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. 9255 Edes Avenue (510) 562-8989.

Fruitvale Market: Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 34th Avenue and 12th Street. (510) 535-6929.

Grand Lake: Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Splash Pad Park, Grand Avenue and Lakepark Way (800) 949-FARM.

Jack London Square: Through October Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Broadway and Embarcadero (800) 949-FARM or www.jacklondonssquare.com.

Jack London Square: Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Broadway and Embarcadero. (800) 949-FARM or www.jacklondonssquare.com.

Twilight Tuesdays Market: Tuesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. August through October. Jack London Square, foot of Broadway. (800) 949-FARM or www.jacklondonssquare.com.

Kaiser Certified Farmers Market: Through November: Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Howe Street between MacArthur Boulevard and 40th Street. (800) 949-FARM.

Mandela Market: Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fifth Street and Mandela Parkway. (510) 776-4178.

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technician for over 12 years and has his Bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley. His partner Apple is currently working on her Master's degree in Literature at Mills College. Our education and experience combine to form a unique approach to customer service that focuses on your particular needs, questions, and concerns. Many people have extremely busy lives and are constantly battling a shortage of time. At 7 Days a Week Smog we offer free pick-up and delivery, so getting your vehicle smogged is one less errand you have to run. Many people also have questions about the smog program and have apprehensions about what will happen if their vehicle fails its smog test. We are well versed in the Vehicle Retirement (\$1,000 to retire your

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\$12.95

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Broiled Salmon
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Pork Tenderloin
served with double mushroom sauce

Baked Eggplant Parmigiana

Roasted Leg of Lamb
served with garlic sauce

Fish Stew

Bayside Pasta

Capellini with Bay shrimp, baby clams & scallops in tomato basil cream sauce

Appetizers

Fried Oysters

Combination Appetizer

A medley of fried prawns, zucchini, oysters and eggplant

Fresh Steamed Manila Clams

Escargot De Bourgogne

Fried Zucchini

Fried Prawns

Fried Calamari

Stuffed Jumbo Porto Bello Mushroom

with crab and shrimp, smothered with melted mozzarella cheese

Soup & Salad

(Salads include a cup of soup)

Soup du Jour or Minestrone

• Cup

• Bowl

Onion Soup Gratinée

Avocado & Shrimp Salad

Spinach Salad & Chicken Salad

Feta cheese, bacon, Greek olives and vinaigrette dressing

Crab Louie

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El Caballo

891B Island Drive (Harbor Bay Island), Alameda, (510) 521-4032

Family-owned El Caballo Mexican Restaurant has had a long-standing reputation for preparing delicious traditional dishes from scratch using nothing but the freshest ingredients of the highest quality. El Caballo is famous for their Especialidades De Mariscos (seafood specialties) including Paella Etillo Catalina, Cioppino Siete Madres, Enchiladas Cabo San Lucas, and many others. In addition to delicious seafood entrees, El Caballo offers an impressive menu of Mexican favorites to please every palate. The family and staff at El Caballo have made it their utmost priority to offer you, their guests, a pleasant and relaxing dining experience. You are invited to enjoy authentic Mexican dining with a view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon.

Juanita's

1324 Park Street, Alameda (510) 865-2588

Juanita's has been serving home style Mexican cooking since 1975 to generations of Bay Area diners. Patrons enjoy a margarita or cold cerveza at Juanita's with their choice of delicious Mexican appetizers and entrees. Including everyone's favorite - tacos, enchiladas, and fajitas. AC \$\$ FB W

Katsu Sushi

1465 Webster Street, Alameda, (510) 749-8461

West Alameda's newest restaurant, Katsu Sushi, invites guests to an upscale dining experience with classic simplicity. Chef Sang Kim prepares all dishes from scratch and seafood is brought in fresh, directly from Japan. The menu is extensive, ranging from an extraordinary selection of sushi and sashimi, Udon/Soba, Donburi (over rice dishes), to pasta and an impressive variety of sake. Architect Duk Lee has created a dramatic backdrop for guests, marrying modern art with traditional design elements. Attention to even the most minor aesthetic detail is also mirrored in the elegant presentation of Katsu's dishes, offerings that are as much a work of art to the palate as to the eye. *Katsu is open for lunch M-F from 11:30am to 2:30pm and open for dinner every day from 5-9:30pm. Reservations recommended.*

Montclair Bistro

6118 Medau Place, Montclair Village, (510) 482-8282

Chef Henry Vortriede's philosophy of his restaurant, Montclair Bistro, is Metrix Cuisine, which he finds is "a synergy between the food on the table, the art on the walls, and the ambience of the restaurant. The result is a feeling of comfort and harmony between the food and the surroundings". The Bistro's cuisine is Creative California with a French flare and offers gourmet delicacies for even the most discriminating palate. The dining experience is enhanced with a full bar and more than 150 wines and Vintage Ports. *Montclair Bistro offers lunch, dinner, Happy Hour and Sunday Brunch. Please visit our ad for hours of operation. Reservations are recommended but not required. Visit www.montclairbistro.com.*

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621

Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular early bird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. *The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. - Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner.*

Sophla Cafe

1247 Solano Ave., Albany (510) 526-8663

Sophla Cafe is a tiny haven for Mideast food. Owner Moti Dagan makes entrees and baked goods with a personal touch. For dinner enjoy schnitzel, moussaka (sliced eggplant dish with ground beef) or the cous cous plate. Finish with a delightful dessert made in-house. For a limited time, enjoy early bird specials for only \$7.95. Offer valid only with mention of ad from 5-9pm. Take out and catering menus available upon request. *Open Sun-Fri 11-5pm.*

Sushi House

2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999

When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals & out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses w/unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" - yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail, salmon, tuna & halibut deep fried w/house special sauce - spicy! Frequent Sushi House diners John & Salle Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist & his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." *Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda! AE MC VS \$*

Sophia Cafe

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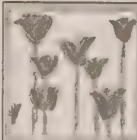
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THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu

Café Enrico

Pasta (Served with soup or salad)

Cannelloni a la Florentina

Marinara and white sauce, topped with mozzarella cheese, ground veal, mushrooms, ricotta cheese, spinach and spices rolled in crepes and baked.

13.95

The Sicilian Connection

Italian sausage sautéed with tomatoes, mushrooms, green peppers and onions, served over linguini with garlic spicy!

14.95

Special Seafood Pasta (Served with soup or salad)

Fresh Clams over Linguini

Red or white sauce.

17.95

Anna's Special

Crab, garlic, mushrooms and green onions over linguini, topped with Alfredo sauce.

21.95

Capellini with Seafood

Clams, prawns, scallops, crab, mushrooms and garlic in red or white sauce.

20.95

Morabito Special

Prawns, scallops and Italian sausage with mushrooms, onions and sweet peppers in a garlic butter and marinara sauce over linguini.

18.95

Fettuccini with Prawns

Sautéed with large prawns and fresh Portobello mushrooms and smattered with a garlic wine butter sauce.

18.95

Entrées

All entrées served with soup or salad, choice of rice, baked potato, mashed potato or pasta and fresh vegetables. There is absolutely no MSG in any of our cooking!

Chicken

Filet of Chicken Scallopini

Filet of boneless chicken breast sautéed with mushrooms and Marsala wine sauce.

15.95

Chicken Parmigiana

Boneless chicken breast, baked in marinara sauce and topped with mozzarella cheese.

15.95

Chicken Teriyaki

Boneless chicken breast marinated in light ginger teriyaki sauce.

15.95

Chicken Oscar

Boneless chicken breast baked with fresh crab meat, fresh asparagus, fresh Portobello mushrooms and Bearnaise sauce.

19.95

Chicken Marsala

Filet of boneless chicken breast sautéed with mushrooms, Marsala wine cream sauce.

15.95

Filet of Chicken Piccata

Filet of boneless chicken breast sautéed with capers in a lemon wine sauce.

15.95

Chicken Cutlets

Boneless breast of chicken, breaded and pan fried with white or red sauce.

15.95

Fried Chicken Salerno

Specialty seasoned, crisp, tasty and tender.

14.95

Steaks

Rib Eye Steak or Blackened Rib Eye Steak

20.95

Broiled New York Steak

Topped with fresh sautéed mushrooms.

20.95

Teriyaki Steak

Marinated in light ginger teriyaki sauce.

19.95

Ground Round Steak

Topped with sautéed mushrooms and onions.

13.95

Filet Mignon

Served with Cognac-Cream Sauce.

20.95

New York Pepper Steak

With brandy green pepper cream sauce.

20.95

Filet of Tournados of Beef

Two petite filets broiled and covered with fresh mushrooms resting on fried eggplant and topped with Bearnaise sauce.

20.95

Veal

Veal Scallopini

Sautéed with mushrooms in Marsala wine sauce.

18.95

Veal Cutlets

Freshly breaded, pan fried with white or red sauce.

18.95

Veal Oscar

Fresh veal sautéed with mushrooms, shallots and white wine, topped with fresh asparagus, crab meat and Bearnaise sauce.

22.95

Veal Parmigiana

Breaded with fine herbs, baked with marinara sauce and mozzarella cheese.

18.95

Veal Marsala

Sautéed with mushrooms, Marsala wine cream sauce.

18.95

Seafood

Calamari Steak Dore

Lightly floured, dipped in egg, sautéed in lemon wine sauce.

15.95

Prawns or Scallops Supreme

Sautéed with mushrooms, onion in garlic, wine and butter sauce.

17.95

Fried Prawns or Scallops

(or Combination) Freshly breaded.

16.95

Fresh Filet of Sole Dore

Lightly floured, dipped in egg, sautéed in lemon butter sauce.

16.95

Broiled Prawns

With garlic butter.

17.95

Prawn Provencale

Prawns sautéed in garlic, tomato and wine butter sauce.

16.95

Scallione Almondine

Pressed abalone and scallop steak, dore style - smattered with almonds.

16.95

Fresh Salmon

With dill-herb cream sauce.

16.95

Fried Seafood Platter

Prawns, scallops, fish and oysters.

17.95

Broiled Seafood

Prawns, scallops, calamari with garlic butter.

17.95

House Specialties

(Served with garlic bread)

19.95

Steamer

Freshly steamed Manila clams.

21.95

Fresh Seafood Cioppino

Prawns, scallops, clams, whitefish and crab meat cooked in cioppino sauce.

21.95

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1108 Lincoln, Alameda, (510) 521-6257

El Caballo Wraps Gourmet Mexican Cuisine is an unexpected treasure in the heart of Alameda. Located on Lincoln Ave. next to Paganos Ace Hardware, El Caballo Wraps is the East Bay's answer to fresh, homemade, gourmet Mexican fare with a sophisticated twist. The menu is impressive, including old recipe soups, fresh gourmet salads, seafood, tacos, Mexican specialties and more. Amongst the gourmet specialties at Wraps is the "Superb Seafood Wrap", a flavorful combination of grilled snapper, shrimp sautéed with salsa fresca and chipotle sauce, served with cilantro rice, beans, sweet yellow corn and guacamole. Barbeque wraps and breakfast wraps are also served all day. For those who want something other than a wrap try one of Wraps' many Mexican classic platters or a la carte items. Vegetarian plates are also available. Open Mon-Sat 9-9 and Sun 10-6. 1108 Lincoln Ave., Alameda. (510) 521-6257. Catering, to-go and delivery also available.

Café Ya 'sou

1265 Harbor Bay Parkway #100, Alameda, (510) 522-7991
Café Ya 'sou takes guests on a culinary journey to the Mediterranean, bringing the flavors of Greece and her neighbors to Alameda. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, Ya 'sou has a reputation of pleasing guests with old-fashioned Greek specialties created by Stelios. Try one of many home-style entrees, including Moussaka, Spanikopita, Tiropitakia, Osso Buco, and Dolmas (Greek sampler) to name only a few. Vegetarian entrees are available upon request. Greek desserts, cakes pastries from old family recipes are not to be missed. Catering is also a specialty at Café Ya 'sou, offering delicious sit-down or buffet-style dinners for private parties, corporate events, weddings and more. A catered Sunday brunch can be arranged for your church or community center. Café Ya 'sou is located at 1265 Harbor Bay Pkwy #100 in Alameda. (510) 522-7991.

Kamakura

2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda (510) 521-9121

Faith Yamato and the chefs of Kamakura present SHARI, the highest quality of rice that envelopes Sushi. The best short grain premium rice available in the USA is used for Kamakura's Sushi. The "Tamanishiki" brand of rice definitely provides the decisive edge in Sushi quality and taste. Following centuries old Japanese culinary practice, the rice is gently steamed, then seasoned with an aged-vinegar blend, and carefully fanned to cool to achieve the perfect, firm, yet moist texture, pliable but not sticky; there is no shortcut. For authentic, delectable Sushi and original Japanese creations, dine-in, take-out and party catering, visit or contact Kamakura Restaurant, 2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, (510) 521-9121. Wheel chair access, accepting Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover. Open for Lunch Mon. - Sat. 11:30-2:30; Dinner served daily 5pm-10pm.

La Pinata 3

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La Pinata 3 has been indulging the Bay Area since 1978 with authentic, delicious Mexican cuisine. In 2005, La Pinata 3 introduced their Taco Bar, offering authentic Mexican tacos prepared the old-fashioned way, with traditional ingredients. In addition to Pinata 3's impressive menu, including Albondigas (meat ball soup), traditional Mexican breakfasts, and the famous Whole Red Snapper, delectable homemade pastries (desserts) and after dinner drinks are not to be missed. Perhaps most impressive about La Pinata 3 is the popular Tequila Bar. Serving the largest variety of 100% Agave tequilas in Alameda, and perhaps the entire East Bay, the tequila bar at La Pinata 3 is guaranteed to turn you in to a return guest. La Pinata 3 is open daily from 7am to 3am, and Happy Hour is from 4-5pm M-F. Weekend Specials and a \$9.50 Sunday Brunch are also available. www.lapinata.com. (Look for La Pinata #6 opening mid-August in Concord with 2 tequila bars!)

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...You Can't Take It With
...Contra Costa Civic The-
...latest production, takes
...the mid-1930s, when, it's
...and people were more com-
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...reeling from the
...The Sycamore fam-
...poor but happy — ecstati-
...happy, as it pursues its in-
...dreams. Grandpa
...who is the moral center of
...family, and his nightly grace
...meals sums up the family

...Sir," he says one night,
...been getting along pretty
...quite awhile now, and
...certainly much obliged. Re-
...all we ask is to just go
...and be happy in our own
...way."

...ever, there's one member
...the family who wants to be
...in a different sort of way.
...loves her family dearly, and
...loyal to it. But not only
...the only member of the
...with a job, she's in love
...the boss' son.
...Penny blithely plans a
...wedding — "I'll put the al-

Playwrights George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart won a Pulitzer Prize in 1936 for this screwball comedy with an edge. The edge is there, and it's no less funny now.

tar right where the snakes are" — Alice pleads with them to act normal for one single evening, so that Tony Kirby and his snooty parents can be entertained at dinner. The Sycamores and their entourage are happy to comply. Too bad the Kirbys come a night early.

The ensuing culture clash takes up the second act and torpedoed the romance, until the dyspeptic Mr. Kirby returns for a bracing lecture from Grandpa and ends up embracing his own inner weirdness. It's a facile but fun turnaround that leaves us with that good old-fashioned glow.

Ralph Miller plays Grandpa with supreme confidence and understatement. This seasoned actor seems to understand that in

such a tiny theater, the audience can catch every twinkle in his eye without the need for a lot of mugging. As the moony Mr. De Pinna, a guy who came to deliver ice eight years ago and never left, Bill Hatteroth is a genuine joy to watch. A few of the other actors, unfortunately, seem afraid to let their faces be still for an instant.

The set by Matt Flynn is remarkable. The Sycamore living room is created with loving detail; it seems to glow with family warmth, aided by lighting designer Adam Fry. The costumes by Misty Ty evoke the '30s without looking costume-y. Director Kate Culbertson does a marvelous job of running the large cast around the stage without them getting in each other's way. We thought we had the third-worst seats in the house, but what someone told us is true: There's no such thing as a bad seat for this one.

Playwrights George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart won a Pulitzer Prize in 1936 for this screwball comedy with an edge. The edge is there, and it's no less funny now.

Freelance writer Susan Kuchinsk believes her screwball days are over, but she still gets e-mail at susan@kuchinsk.com.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BEST SELLERS

Compiled from sales at 45 independent bookstores in Northern California.

Fiction

1. "Shallmar the Clown," by Salman Rushdie. (Random House, \$25.95.)
2. "On Beauty," by Zadie Smith. (Penguin, \$25.95.)
3. "The Painted Drum," by Louise Erdrich. (HarperCollins, \$25.95.)
4. "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan," by Lisa See. (Random House, \$21.95.)
5. "The Historian," by Elizabeth Kostova. (Little, Brown, \$25.95.)
6. "Zorro," by Isabel Allende. (HarperCollins, \$25.95.)
7. "The Da Vinci Code," by Dan Brown. (Doubleday, \$24.95.)
8. "The Lipstick Jungle," by Candace Bushnell. (Hyperion, \$24.95.)
9. "Thud!" by Terry Pratchett. (HarperCollins, \$24.95.)
10. "The Marmalade Chair," by Sue Monk Kidd. (Viking, \$24.95.)

Nonfiction

1. "Freakonomics," by Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner. (William Morrow, \$25.95.)
2. "Blink," by Malcolm Gladwell. (Little, Brown, \$25.95.)
3. "A Man Without a Country," by Kurt Vonnegut. (Seven Stories, \$23.95.)
4. "The World Is Flat," by Thomas L. Friedman. (Farrar, Straus & Giroux,

\$27.50.)

5. "Bait and Switch," by Barbara Ehrenreich. (Metropolitan, \$24.)
6. "On Bull—," by Harry G. Frankfurt. (Princeton, \$9.95.)
7. "1776," by David McCullough. (Simon & Schuster, \$32.)
8. "Natural Causes 'They' Don't Want You To Know About," by Kevin Trudeau. (Alliance, \$28.95.)
9. "You: The Owner's Manual," by Michael F. Roizen and Mehmet C. Oz. (Collins, \$24.95.)
10. "New Rules," by Bill Maher. (Rodale, \$24.95.)

Trade paperback fiction

1. "The Kite Runner," by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, \$14.)
2. "Snow," by Orhan Pamuk. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
3. "Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell," by Susanna Clark. (Bloomsbury, \$15.95.)
4. "The Shadow of the Wind," by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. (Penguin, \$15.)
5. "The Known World," by Edward P. Jones. (Amistad, \$13.95.)
6. "I Am Charlotte Simmons," by Tom Wolfe. (Picador, \$15.)
7. "The Secret Life of Bees," by Sue Monk Kidd. (Penguin, \$14.)
8. "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time," by Mark Haddon. (Vintage, \$12.)
9. "Moloka," by Alan Brennert. (St. Martin's Griffin, \$13.95.)
10. "Wicked," by Gregory Maguire. (ReganBooks, \$15.)

Trade paperback nonfiction

1. "Why Do Men Have Nipples?" by Mark Leyner and Billy Goldberg. (Three Rivers, \$12.95.)
2. "Chronicles," by Bob Dylan. (Simon & Schuster, \$14.)
3. "The Tipping Point," by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay, \$14.95.)
4. "The Devil in the White City," by Erik Larson. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
5. "Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim," by David Sedaris. (Back Bay, \$14.95.)
6. "Guns, Germs, and Steel," by Jared Diamond. (Norton, \$16.95.)
7. "Will in the World," by Stephen J. Greenblatt. (Norton, \$14.95.)
8. "Don't Think of an Elephant," by George Lakoff. (Chelsea Green, \$10.)
9. "Bad Dog," by R.D. Rosen, et al. (Workman, \$9.95.)
10. "How Soccer Explains the World," by Franklin Foer. (HarperPerennial, \$13.95.)

Mass market paperback

1. "The Constant Gardener," by John le Carré. (Pocket, \$7.99.)
2. "Angels & Demons," by Dan Brown. (Pocket, \$7.99.)
3. "The Rule of Four," by Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason. (Dell, \$7.99.)
4. "Hour-Game," by David Baldacci. (Warner, \$7.99.)
5. "Good Morning, Midnight," by Reginald Hill. (Avon, \$7.99.)

— Northern California Independent Booksellers Association

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The list includes dancers Martha Graham to Merce Cunningham, to Mark Morris, and to John Cage. Since the early 1980s, dance has meant rock music. Thousands of Bay Area fans have been full-scale performances by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (arriving in 1997) and San Francisco Opera and, next month, the Kirov Ballet with "The Ring Beauty."

From the very beginning, presenting performing arts on campus had the same notes Hollis Ashby, Cal Performances' associate director, is compiling a centennial history of the arts brought to the university, it had to be the best," says. "They felt that a student would have the opportunity to see the very best ballet company, the best violinist, hear the best orchestra before their four years of college."

It was considered part of the education process. Entertainment for the sake of entertainment is not what we do," says. "We aren't part of a recreational institution. We are an educational institution."

It only served students,

Cal Performances would not have become the powerhouse presenter of artists in the Bay Area that it is today; one of the leading campus arts organizations in the nation.

Beginning with the opening of the 2,000-seat Zellerbach Auditorium on campus in 1968, performing arts tilted markedly toward the East Bay. Before then, major touring dance troupes and orchestras had to share the War Memorial Opera House with the San Francisco Symphony, Opera and Ballet.

During Zellerbach's first full season, Cal Performances presented the Paul Taylor Dance Company, Stuttgart Ballet, Les Danseurs Africains of Mali and many other groups. This season, the schedule includes the Mark Morris Dance Group, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago.

"We are the major dance presenter on the West Coast," Cole says. "We have the facility, we have the marketplace to support it, and we've become important to the community by doing things they can't find anywhere else."

It's the toughest sort of competition for East Bay dance groups, but also a great opportunity. "They offer such a wide range," says Lauren Jonas, artistic director of Walnut Creek's Diablo Ballet. "You get the Bolshoi or the Kirov, a contemporary dance company from Eu-

rope, a modern dance company. It can definitely be inspiring."

Diablo Ballet joins the mix when it performs Jan. 14 at Zellerbach Auditorium, under the auspices of Cal Performances. "It's a whole new East Bay audience for us," she says. "There are a lot of people who don't want to drive through the Caldecott Tunnel."

Performers, arts journalists and other presenters credit Cole with building Cal Performances' national stature. "Robert has done a brilliant job giving his audience such variety," says soprano Dawn Upshaw, who has performed on campus since the 1980s. "His great gift is his vision; he risks he takes, especially right now in this time, in this country. A lot of presenters are trying to play it safe."

Cal Performances' innovative atmosphere is also welcomed by such groups as the Kronos Quartet. "Whether we're performing with the Merce Cunningham Dance Company or doing the local premiere of an album," says Kronos artistic director David Harrington, "I certainly feel free to experiment, and I feel that's encouraged."

Cole says he's just responding to the demands of a "very competitive marketplace." What sets Cal Performances apart, he believes, is the breadth of its programming.

"It's difficult to differentiate yourself," he says. "Anything

you'd want, from many countries, many cultures, you'll find here. It's the only place in the Bay Area where you'll find it all."

That wide range of cultures represented has been a hallmark since the beginning, when the 10,000-seat Greek Theatre, financed by newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst, opened in 1903. That same year, students performed scenes from Aristophanes' "The Birds," in Greek, of course, and Racine's "Phedre" in French.

"The Greek was really a phenomenon," says history-gatherer Ashby. "There were other major theaters in San Francisco, but many of them were destroyed in the 1906 earthquake."

"When Bernhard came here, that really put Berkeley on the map," she adds. "It gained national attention from the biggest theater stars of the day. They said, 'If Bernhard's going to perform there, I'm going to perform there.'"

Among those early performers were the popular Maude Adams and Margaret Anglin, the husband-and-wife Shakespearean actors E.H. Sothern and Julia Marlowe, and opera star Luisa Tetrazzini.

Ashby has further discovered that the history of Cal Performances mirrors the development of American theater during the past century — from star vehicles to elaborate stagings to experimental works. It reflects mu-

sic history as well, from avant-garde pianist Henry Cowell to contralto Marian Anderson to this season's Takacs Quartet concerts exploring the works of John Adams and Gyorgy Ligeti.

A receptive audience, a knack for selecting emerging artists (conductor Jordi Savall, Mark Morris) and the Zellerbach Auditorium showcase have made Cal Performances one of the top-performing arts presenters in the West. Only UCLA matches its stature, say others in the presenting industry.

"It's always been a big series, and Robert's leadership has expanded it even more," says Ruth Felt, who founded San Francisco Performances 26 years ago and presents similar programs on a smaller scale. The East Bay's population growth has been one factor in Cal Performances' success, she notes. "Their immediate audience pool is much bigger than ours."

Both San Francisco Performances and Cal Performances have expanded to fill a demand for live music, dance and theater, in spite of the growing challenge from television and other technology, says Felt.

Cole agrees. "It's all irrelevant, because none of it takes the place of live performance."

Globalization, which Cole describes as "a bad word for some people," is a positive factor for the performing arts. "There's

been a huge change in the diversity of our potential audience," he says. One morning last month, he held a news conference for Chinese-language media to talk about scheduled performances by the National Ballet of China and the Beijing People's Art Theatre.

Not only does Cal Performances serve a diverse audience, but it also expands the audience for dance, theater and music across cultural boundaries.

This season's schedule includes Senegalese singer Youssou N'Dour, performing works from his Grammy-winning album "Egypt"; Ivo Papasov and the Yuri Yunakov in a concert billed as "Bulgarian Be-Bo"; and the San Francisco-based Hawaiian dance troupe, Na Lei Lulu I Ka Wai.

Still, Cal Performances has "only scratched the surface" of interest in many cultures, says Cole, despite the remarkable success of such specialized groups as the Masters of Persian Classical Music ensemble, which returns to Zellerbach in March. Acts that stretch the cultural boundaries can expand the group's audience, says Cole, but there is a more central purpose.

"We're trying to be a part of the community, to serve the community. It's our job."

Reach Robert Taylor at 925-977-8428 or rtaylor@cctimes.com.

KELEY'S ARTS HISTORY

1916
Modern dancers Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn perform their "Dance Pageant of Egypt, Greece and India." The company includes 22-year-old Martha Graham.

1934
Max Reinhardt's extravagant production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is performed in the Faculty Glade and Greek Theatre, with a cast including 14-year-old Mickey Rooney as Puck and 18-year-old Olivia de Havilland as Hermia.

1950s
Poets and writers lecturing on campus include Thomas Mann, Dylan Thomas, W.H. Auden, William Carlos Williams and Marianne Moore.

1952
Louis Armstrong and his band perform at Wheeler Auditorium.

1969
Zellerbach's first full season boosts Berkeley's stature as a dance center with the Paul Taylor Dance Company, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Harkness Ballet, Stuttgart Ballet and Thailand's Phakavali Dancers.



1980
Bill Graham and other promoters begin to present popular music at the Greek Theatre.

1987
The Mark Morris Dance Group appears, beginning a relationship that includes several premieres over the years.

1995
World premiere of the John Adams song-play "I Was Looking at the Ceiling and Then I Saw the Sky," with a libretto by UC Berkeley poet June Jordan.

1907 1916 1918 1919 1934 1937 1949 1950s 1952 1958 1962 1968 1969 1978 1980 1987 1995 2003

1918
The Spanish flu epidemic forces cancellation of many performances on campus.

1919
The first full-scale opera, "Aida," is performed in the Greek Theatre. "Samson and Delilah" and "The Marriage of Figaro" follow during the next two years.

1937
George Gershwin performs with the San Francisco Symphony in Harmon Gym, one of the composer's last concerts.

1949
Dave Brubeck gives a concert and workshop in Wheeler Auditorium, one of the first jazz performers to appear on campus.

1958
Hertz Hall opens with a monthlong music festival including newly commissioned works by Roger Sessions, Andrew Imbrie and Darius Milhaud.

1962
Merce Cunningham's dance company appears; John Cage is music director.

1968
Actor Gregory Peck, a UC Berkeley graduate, is master of ceremonies for the opening night of Zellerbach Hall.

1978
The 75th anniversary of the Greek Theatre is celebrated with a performance by Luciano Pavarotti and the San Francisco Opera Orchestra.

2003
The National Theatre of Greece perform Euripides' "Medea" to celebrate the Greek Theatre's 100th anniversary.



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Arts & Leisure

Friday, September 30, 2005



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

Morning KPIX needs overhaul

MAYBE KPIX-TV News Director Dan Rosenheim just likes people most of us find annoying. After all, he's the guy who hired the preternaturally irritating, talent-impaired Malou Nubla away from his old station, KRON, a few years ago.

Or maybe Rosenheim just thinks aggregating aggravating personalities on a newscast will improve ratings. We speak, of course, about Channel 5's embarrassing 5-7 a.m. newscast.

Talk about schizophrenic programming. KPIX's evening newscasts, anchored by steady pro Ken Bastida and capable news reader Dana King, has noticeably improved in quality, and is usually a solid No. 2 in the Nielsen Ratings.

Most days, however, KPIX's morning newscast looks like the "Chuckles the Clown" show.

The biggest offender here, of course, is the king of smirk, well-dressed humanoid John Kessler. It's not easy to transition from a hearty laugh to reading a story about a bus explosion that killed 30 elderly people, but Kessler apparently thinks he can pull it off. Wrong.

At other times, Kessler merely looks bemused and twiddles his thumbs while making small talk with co-anchor Sydnie Kohara, a solid pro who looks to me as though she wants off the show. KPIX has cut promos showing the two making with the laughs. If it's personality KPIX is trying to market with this pair, it needs a personality transplant. Get Kohara away from Kessler and put her on the evening newscast with Bastida.

Hard as it is to believe, Kessler isn't even the hammiest one on the newscast. Not even close.

That dubious honor, of course, goes to local TV's reigning camera-hog, the always-mugging Roberta Gonzales. Gonzales has also managed to perfect the art of mugging on radio, causing KCB's Radio staffers to wince when I mention her name. One KCB's weekday anchor told me, "I turn off our station when she's on. I can't stand listening to her."

And we haven't mentioned local oldies DJ and Giants chief cheerleader and public announcer Renel (Brooks-Moon). Renel does the gossip segment on KPIX's dim bulb morning newscast. The other morning on the Giants' flagship station, KNBR, one Giants fan called Gary Radnich to say of Renel's P.A. work: "I can't stand her." Radnich didn't disagree. Alas, her TV work isn't any better. Stick to radio, Renel.

And we'd be remiss if we overlooked Channel 5's festive traffic segments, that wacky helicopter crew that brings live dogs and dead plastic fish into the chopper to add to the frivolity. (This pilot, anyway, wonders whether anyone from the Federal Aviation Administration is watching.) Then there's KPIX's newest associate, doughy traffic reporter Joe Hoskinson. He tries to act as Kessler's straight man, and KPIX's silly new traffic animations look as though they're borrowed from SimCity Rush Hour.

KTVU's considerably less yuk-filled morning newscast is stomping KPIX in the ratings.

So, this memo to Channel 5's news director: It's not working. Get rid of this whole sorry bunch (save Kohara, who deserves far better). Try a serious newscast for a change.

MEDIA NOTES: Speaking of serious broadcasters, congrats to KDFC (102.1 FM) for again winning the prestigious Marconi Award as the country's top classical station. ... Then there's the case of the general manager of one major local station who showed up in his station's respected newsroom the other night apparently drunk, dragging his date into the station's air studio with him. A real class act, this guy.

Bill Mann's column runs every other week. Reach him at Newsmann@sonic.net.



THE SAN FRANCISCO OPERA, above, in a production of "Turandot" in 1957, is one of many professional groups to have performed at the Greek Theatre over the years.

Breadth-and-butter repertoire

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CURRENT SEASON

Here are highlights of Cal Performances' 2005-06 season at UC Berkeley. Details are available at 510-642-9988 and www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

■ Mark Morris Dance Group: Six works including "Four Saints in Three Acts," through Oct. 1; "The Hard Nut," Dec. 9-19, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Cecilia Bartoli: The mezzo-soprano in recital with the Zurich Orchestra La Scintilla, Oct. 6, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Kirov Ballet: "The Sleeping Beauty," with the Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre, Oct. 12-16, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Arlo Guthrie: "40th Anniversary Celebration of Alice's Restaurant," Oct. 30, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Beijing People's Art Theatre: "The Teahouse," by the first Chinese drama company to tour internationally, Nov. 5 and 6, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Propeller: "The Winter's Tale," performed by the British all-male troupe, Nov. 9-13, Zellerbach Playhouse.

■ Ira Glass and Chris Ware: "Visible & Invisible Drawings," a discussion of storytelling including the host of NPR's "This American Life," Nov. 12, Zellerbach Hall.

■ John Cleese: "Seven Ways to Skin an Ocelot" by the Monty Python veteran, Feb. 8 and 9, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Moscow Circus: "A Russian Winter's Tale," Feb. 25 and 26, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Masters of Persian Classical Music: Iranian classical music and Sufi and contemporary poetry, March 12, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Dave Brubeck Quartet and the Ramsey Lewis Trio: A jazz double bill, March 15, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Eddie Palmieri Septet: Latin jazz with Nicholas Payton, trumpet, April 1, Zellerbach Hall.

■ Ravi Shankar and Anoushka Shankar: The father and daughter sitar players, May 7, Zellerbach Hall.



AMONG THE highlights from Cal Performances this season are, clockwise from top, Beijing People's Art Theatre "The Teahouse," John Cleese and Arlo Guthrie.



Cal Performances upholds lengthy tradition of innovative shows

By Robert Taylor
STAFF WRITER

Sarah Bernhardt was the most celebrated actress of her day when she arrived in Berkeley on her farewell tour of America, a month after the 1906 earthquake and fire that devastated San Francisco.

When she performed the title role in Racine's "Phedre" in the recently built Greek Theatre on the University of California campus, the crowd went wild.

The event was a huge success, a benefit for the San Francisco Emergency Relief Fund to aid victims of the disaster. Bernhardt's fund-raising efforts during her tour were part of a nationwide outpouring of aid for the stricken city — not unlike the flurry of current concerts raising money for Hurricane Katrina relief.

But that appearance had another level of significance; it marked the beginning of professional performance on the Berkeley campus, leading to a century-long parade of innovative, emerging and world-renowned artists.

From John Phillip Sousa's band and a Sanskrit drama, "The Little Clay Cart," in the early years, to this month's Russian ballet and Portuguese fado singer, the campus has offered a heady mix of world cultures for decades upon decades.

The 100-year mark doesn't come until next May 17, the anniversary of Bernhardt's Greek



ROBERT COLE is a Cal Performances.

Theatre appearance, the university's presenting organization Cal Performances, has launched the celebration.

The season began last year with the National Chinese performing "The Lantern," based on the winning film. Robert Taylor's "Cal Performances" director, 1986, says the company is the century-long dedication.

"It's not just a Chinese company, it's the greatest Chinese ballet company," he says. "And the theater company, Beijing People's Art Theatre, like the Royal Shakespeare Company."

Since the early 1920s, UC Berkeley has presented an amazing first-rate and often free.

See CAL, Page C9

Production from 1930s doesn't fade over time

■ Every seat's a good one for Contra Costa Civic Theatre's "You Can't Take It With You"

By Susan Kuchinskas
CORRESPONDENT

The Sycamore family is batty as can be.

Penny Sycamore, played by Parcae Lockman, watches over the family from her perch in front of her typewriter, on which she bangs out one potboiler after another. Her husband Paul, played by Mick Renner, spends his days in the basement with his pal Mr. De Pinna, cooking up fireworks. Daughter Essie wants to be a dancer, xylophone-playing son-in-law

THEATER REVIEW

■ WHAT: "You Can't Take It With You"

■ WHERE: Contra Costa Civic Theatre, 951 Pomona Ave., at Mooser Lane, El Cerrito.

■ WHEN: Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Oct. 22, plus 2 p.m. Sunday matinees on Oct. 2, 9 and 16.

■ TICKETS: \$15 adults, \$10 ages 16 and under. Reservations are essential. Call 510-524-9132.

Ed is on welfare, and Martin Banderhof, the patriarch of the family, doesn't pay his income taxes — and he keeps snakes!

See CCCT, Page C9



PARCAE LOCKMAN is free-spirited Penny Sycamore, who spends her days playing on a typewriter that was delivered to her home by mistake, in Contra Costa Civic Theatre's production of "You Can't Take It With You."

Friday Auto Plus

cars.com

Friday supplement to The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, September 30, 2005

Section D

After a brief absence, BMW brings back the sport wagon for 2006

BY CONNIE KEANE
MOTOR MATTERS

The 5 Series combines sportiness, sensibilities and wagon practicality in its newest introduction — or reintroduction — to the 2006 model lineup.

The 5 Series sport wagon is back. Absent since 2003, it's great to see the wagon in the five fold.

BMW automobiles enjoy a long history of beautifully crafted four-wheeled machines that nearly everyone would love to have at some point in their lives. Taut over smooth bodyside exterior lines and a smooth interior are clues to how much fun it is to drive. The proof of its dynamic takes place behind the wheel.

The 5 Series has five models to its name for 2006 — four sedans and one wagon. Prices for the sedan range from \$42,495 to \$49,395. The sport wagon has a base price of \$51,795, including destination charges.

The 2006 5 Series sedans and wagon are equipped with the all-new six-cylinder engine that achieve greater power, torque and efficiency over the 5 Series' four-cylinder engines. A six-speed manual transmission is standard equipment, buyers can get the \$1,275 six-speed automatic transmission as an option.

The entry-level to the 5 Series is the rear-wheel-drive sedan and all-wheel drive 525xi. It's equipped with the 3.0-liter six-cylinder engine with a power output of 215 horsepower at 6,250 rpm and 185 220 lb-ft of torque at 2,750 rpm. This is over the previous 184 horsepower and 175 torque in the older six cylinder.

The 530i and 530xi sedans, as well as the 530xi sport wagon, also feature the 3.0-liter inline six, but the engine has a stage induction system, allowing for power over the single-stage induction 625 models.

The 24-valve six-cylinder engine in the 525xi generates 255 horsepower at 6,600 rpm and 220 pounds-foot of torque at 4,000 rpm. The former six cylinders had 225 horsepower and torque rating of 225 lb-ft respectively.

The 525xi was the sport wagon. It was



THE WAGON'S cargo-carrying abilities provides a lot of flexibility and conveniences that you might not have with a sedan.

MOTOR MATTERS

KEANE ON WHEELS

not only fun to drive, but the wagon's cargo-carrying abilities gave me a lot of flexibility and conveniences that I would not have had with the sedan.

The sedan and wagon are nearly identical in length of 191 inches. Everything about the front and second rows in the wagon is similar to that of the sedan. The wagon distinguishes itself from the sedan in the rear where there are many benefits to a liftgate as opposed to a trunk. The cargo section is fully lined along the floor, sides and back of the rear seats with a luxurious and long-wearing carpet. Contents from my ice cooler spilled onto the carpet, and where I had initially feared some staining would occur, later I could see that everything dried up without a trace.

The liftgate is electronically controlled from the key fob and a driver's side interior button. Making gate closure more convenient is a button on the liftgate doorjamb. When needed, the lift glass opens separately from the liftgate for the added convenience of easily dropping-in smaller items to the cargo.

BMW 530XI

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger, midsize, all-wheel drive wagon
Suggested Retail	\$51,100
Price As Tested	\$61,265
Engine Type	24-valve DOHC inline 6-cylinder
Horsepower	255 @ 6,600 rpm
Torque	220 @ 2,750 rpm
Transmission	Six-speed automatic
Wheelbase	114 inches
Height	59 inches
Curb Weight	3,880 pounds
Fuel Capacity	18 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 20/27

The feature I enjoyed best in the sport wagon was the dual-panel panorama moonroof. It was a moonroof that opened completely over the first and second rows, which made the wagon seem almost convertible-like.

The glass moonroof opens in two stages; a single press on the overhead button opens the shade, then the glass opens over the front seat area, while another push on the button opens the glass to its complete open position. BMW proves wagons are not only functional, but sedan sensible and open-top enjoyable.

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1954 Plymouth Savoy tale: Katie loves Mildred

BY VERN PARKER
MOTOR MATTERS

When Katie met "Mildred" it was love at first sight. Katie Urbanek at first thought the love flowed only to "Mildred," the 1954 Plymouth Savoy. Only later did she discover the extraordinary measures the car evidently took to ensure that they would become a team. Surely, the affection flowed both ways.

The saga began when Barbara Burke bought a powder blue 1954 Plymouth two-door sedan with a base price of \$1,835. She died the next year and the car, one of 25,396 such models built, ended up in the hands of her sister, Mildred Martin, of Mena, Ark. The car was driven sparingly until 1983 when the second owner died. After that the Plymouth, now known far and wide as "Mildred," sat idle for 15 years until the second owner's youngest son, Burke Martin, of Houston, had his mother's car hauled to a repair shop near Houston.

"Mildred" was cleaned cosmetically and tinkered with mechanically enough to run. After a couple of years ownership was transferred to the shop owner who continued to drive the car periodically to keep the juices flowing. Three years later he showed the car to Urbanek who purchased it without hesitation.

She had her son take her to retrieve her 2,986-pound prize. She took possession on Oct. 29, 2004. "I pumped the gas pedal a couple of times, she started up and I drove her home," Urbanek said. Once at home in Brookside Village,

CLASSIC CLASSICS

Urbanek had a trusted mechanic give "Mildred" a physical examination because of a miss she had detected on the drive home.

In the carburetor, beneath the oil bath air cleaner, a clothespin was found clamped onto the butterfly valve. The carburetor itself was only secured by screws that were only finger-tight; consequently, too much air was being sucked into the engine.

The points had been filed down so far that they were easily burned and were filthy with oil. In spite of all these maladies, the car started and ran when Urbanek came shopping. "She really wanted me to own her," Urbanek offers as the only explanation that the car ran at all.

The more miles the Plymouth devours, the better it runs. Urbanek reports 10 miles per gallon when she got the Plymouth and now it delivers around 13 mpg. "She was in that garage too long," Urbanek said.

Early 1954 Plymouths were powered by a 218-cubic-inch, L-head, six-cylinder engine developing 100 horsepower. Those engines had serial numbers up to P25-243000. In mid-year that same engine block was bored out to 230 cubic inches, which boosted horsepower to 110. Those engines were numbered from P25-243001. Urbanek learned that the original owner had blown the engine in Albuquerque, N.M., while it was still under warranty. The replacement



THE POWDER BLUE 1954 Plymouth two-door sedan, with a base price of \$1,835, was one of 25,396 such models built.

engine is one of the more powerful versions.

Inside the mostly original Plymouth are the blue and white gingham upholstered seats. "You can get six people in it," Urbanek says as she points out the 1/3-2/3 split front seat. Overhead, the headliner has been replaced. A new feature on the 1954 Plymouths was the clutch, brake and gas pedal assembly suspended from the fire-

wall. No more holes in the floor for new Plymouth owners.

Optional items on the car include radio, heater, left mirror and full wheelcovers. "I wish there was a mirror on the other side," Urbanek laments.

A set of wide white sidewall 6.70x15-inch tires on a 114-inch wheelbase supports the Plymouth. Urbanek notes the lug nuts on the left side of the car have left-hand

threads.

Urbanek removed the steering wheel cover to expose a blemish-free steering wheel. She did replace the glove compartment latch.

With 39,000 miles on the odometer, Urbanek says, "She only gets sunny weather trips." The speedometer can register speeds up to 100 mph. However, Urbanek says, "65 is plenty fast."

Urbanek has "MILDRED" van-

ity license plates on the car. "She's the sweetest," she says. "Mildred" will be reciprocated with years of free service.

For your car to receive the Classic Car Award, send a photo (front, side, rear, brief details and photo of driver) to Vern Parker, 2221 Kenna Road, Vienna, VA 22181. Only good quality will be considered.

A powertrain warranty doesn't cover accessories

BY JUNIOR DAMATO
MOTOR MATTERS

Dear Doctor: I purchased a 2002 Hyundai six months ago with 28,000 miles. The Hyundai dealer said it had the remainder of the 5-year/60,000-mile warranty. The clutch went out and I had it towed to the dealer. They removed the clutch and said it was burned up and there were hot spots on the flywheel and pressure plate. I had to pay \$714 for its replacement. The cigarette lighter also stopped working and that was not covered. I am disappointed with the Hyundai dealer. — Tom

Dear Tom: I'll bet you did not take the car to an independent shop for a complete used-car evaluation. I always recommend this service before purchasing a used-car, especially a standard transmission vehicle. As for the warranty, read it carefully. The warranty usu-

AUTO DOCTOR

ally covers the powertrain, not accessories. If the clutch is burned up, someone has been riding the clutch, or not driving the car correctly. A used-car evaluation may have picked up this preexisting condition if it was there.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1995 Oldsmobile 98 with the 3.8-liter V6 engine. Current mileage is only 51,000. The engine developed a slight miss last year. A new set of spark plugs and wires took care of the problem. Now at speeds between 47-54 mph, occasionally after the engine has been driven for half an hour or more, there is an intermittent miss again. The engine will run fine for a month or longer without the miss. I had the transmission checked and they

said it was fine. — Don

Dear Don: At the speed you describe, the engine is running very lean and the transmission is ready to go into its lock-up converter mode. This condition is like lugging a manual transmission in high gear at low speed. Any type of weakness in the engine system will show up. We are now seeing a lot of dirty fuel injectors with a poor spray pattern, which cause intermittent misfires, poor fuel economy, and hard starting when the engine is cold. Dirty injectors could also cause emission failures. Also, the transmission lock feature could be the cause. Have the transmission fluid flushed and use a can additive such as Lube Guard or equivalent. This will allow the lock-up converter feature to slide in, instead of harshly engaging.

Dear Doctor: I own a 2002 Lincoln Continental with 27,000 miles.

I purchased the car in January 2005 with 18,000 miles. The day I picked the car up, it overheated. The dealer solved the problem. Now, about once every 10 times I start the car, the low coolant level light comes on. The dealer could not duplicate the problem or get creative. What would you suggest? — Robert

Dear Robert: Disconnect the low coolant sensor for testing purposes for a couple of weeks. If the problem goes away, the sensor was the problem. If the problem still exists, then the body control unit or wiring could be the fault.

Dear Doctor: I recently purchased a 2005 Acura RL automatic transmission. A month ago I backed the car out of the garage without letting the car idle more than 10 seconds. It backed up fine, I put the transmission in drive and it slammed into gear. I went to the dealer and was told the con-

dition was normal, and the transmission pump has to build up pressure. This sounds funny to me. Please advise. — Norman

Dear Norman: Today's transmissions are very complex and work with electronics and fluid pressure. The front transmission pump does have to build up pressure before the transmission's clutch will engage properly. You should also know the reverse is the weakest gear in an automatic transmission. I would also agree that the condition that you had was normal based on the way the car was instantly driven. I suggest backing the car into the garage if possible. If you cannot back in the garage, put the car in drive and move forward a couple of inches before shifting into reverse. I always let the engine idle for a minute or so before moving. In cold weather I use the automatic

car starter and let the car idle for five minutes or more.

Dear Doctor: We own a Mercury Mystique with a manual transmission. The rpm climb up to 3,300 rpm. And when I stop, the rpm will continue to rise. It comes down to normal, but it has been to two dealers and replaced the accelerator. The problem still exists. mechanic suggests a computer. — Cliff

Dear Cliff: A tachometer can too short a sensor information and send this information to the car. Something is wrong with the idle command. High speed motor needs to be replaced if it can. The sensor indicates its position at the engine racing. The technician this information and make a decision on what to do about the problem.

Send questions to: 3 Court Circle, Lakeland,

Small cars are the big hit at Frankfurt Auto Show

BY MCHELLE KREBS
MOTOR MATTERS

FRANKFURT, Germany — Press week for the monstrous but hugely significant Frankfurt Motor Show has just ended and I came back with the usual observations of similarities and differences between the U.S. and Europe, especially Germany.

Small cars reign supreme. In Europe, they are called B-segment cars — a category we don't even sell in the U.S., though Nissan and Honda are talking about it. The Frankfurt show saw an onslaught of new entries in the category — cars we'll never see in the U.S. — like the Fiat Grand Punto, and the Renault Clio III.

Hatchbacks, even ones with two doors and a hatch, are extremely popular in Europe. They aren't in the U.S. where they are perceived as the rock-bottom, entry-level "cheap" version of any line. That perception could be changing with popular cars like the Mini Cooper and the recently introduced Audi A3. Chrysler hopes the perception has changed as it introduces the Dodge Caliber, which is the replacement for the Neon and will come only as a five-door hatchback, not a traditional sedan.

Diesels have gained even more popularity. Some auto executives say diesels now account for two-thirds of vehicle sales in Europe, with some specific countries approaching 90-percent diesel.

Because diesels are so prevalent and the expertise in the technology resides in Europe, automakers there see it as the interim solution for increasing fuel

SHE'S FREEWHEELING

economy instead of hybrid technology, the preferred alternative fuel vehicle in America. But because the U.S. is such an important export market to European automakers, they are being forced to enter the hybrid fray.

Audi shocked everyone by announcing it would offer a hybrid system on its upcoming Q7, its first-ever sport utility. The Q7 goes on sale next year and its most important market will be the United States. BMW showed a concept X3 with a hybrid. Mercedes-Benz's new S-Class sedan will have hybrid powertrains available. Honda has a hybrid in its new Civic, both in Europe and the U.S.

One similarity between the U.S. and Europe is the skyrocketing price of gasoline. In fact, the front page of newspapers in Europe showed photos of people, mostly farmers, protesting the increasing price of gas there, which is already higher than in the U.S.

The Frankfurt show, which covers at least 10 multi-floored buildings and is held every other year, always is the setting for very significant vehicle introductions. And this year was no exception. Here are the highlights:

Mercedes-Benz introduced its new flagship S-Class sedan and a trio of powerful AMG models. The technology-laden S-Class comes in two lengths, both of which are bigger in all dimensions than their counterparts. And it will be more expensive.

Despite skyrocketing gas prices,

Mercedes unveiled: the ML 63 AMG, boasted as the most powerful production SUV with its 510-horsepower engine; the Vision R 63 AMG, the family-mover with the same engine; and the CLK DTM AMG Cabriolet, billed as the world's fastest open-top four seater with its 582-horsepower, 5.5-liter supercharged V8 engine.

Audi unveiled its first sport utility, the Q7, which seats up to seven. The first version, with a 350-horsepower 4.2-liter V8 gasoline engine,

goes on sale next June in the U.S. The 3.6-liter V6 gasoline version follows in September. The hybrid debuts in 2008.

BMW hustled a concept version of the Z4 coupe to Frankfurt to have a competitor to Porsche's Cayman. The hardtop Z4 goes into production next summer. Under its long, sleek hood is BMW's new 3.0-liter inline six-cylinder engine, rated at 265 horsepower and 232 pounds-foot of torque.

Porsche showed the 2006 Cay-

man S, which is basically a hardtop version of the Boxster S that goes on sale early next year. Porsche did not show its four-door Panamera sports car, except in sketches. And Porsche announced the Cayenne at decade's end would be available with a hybrid engine.

General Motors' German subsidiary, Adam Opel AG, unveiled a coupe-SUV concept called the Antara GTC that strongly hints at a future crossover for Opel in Europe and for Saturn in North Amer-



BMW INTRODUCED the Z4 coupe. The hardtop goes into production next summer.

250,000 Ford vehicles to be gas/electric by 2010, it says

BY JIM MATEJA
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — Ford Motor Co. will produce 250,000 or more gas/electric Ford, Mercury and Lincoln vehicles by 2010, chairman Bill Ford said

Wednesday.

"Whether gas is \$2 or \$3 a gallon, hybrids are the way Toyota is going and the way the whole industry is going. And while it's a huge undertaking, it's a wise move on Ford's

part," said Dave Healy, analyst with Burnham Securities.

"Ford has paid a lot of lip service to being green but only a half of 1 percent of all its sales are hybrids. This brings that lip service to reality,"

Healy said.

"The premium price now paid for hybrids isn't justified by the savings in gas. But with more mass production, the premium will shrink to the point it makes sense economically."

Dave Cole, chairman of the Center for Automotive Research in Ann Arbor, Mich., said that as more hybrid cars are produced there likely will be some drop in prices, though how much isn't known. Still, Cole

welcomed the news as a step toward creating a different company as good customer eyes of potential customers.

See FORD page 2

The new Chevy Impala V8 features displacement on demand

BY HERB SHULDINER
MOTOR MATTERS

He's our silent hero," says Ed, general manager of GM's Impala Division. That's because Impala is GM's highest volume passenger car with a growing army of enthusiastic buyers who seek roominess and comfort in a sedan. In 2004, annual sales of more than 200,000 units last year, more than 1 million customers have purchased Impala since its introduction in 1999. Impala's sales are exceeded by the Honda Accord and Toyota Camry in the midsize segment.

But the 2006 model that goes on sale this fall may finally get people to take notice of this midsize model that is, arguably, America's outstanding midsize sedan buy. The 2006 Impala is loaded with new engineering and design features that should finally get people to recognize its value as the only mass-market six-passenger car available today.

Chevrolet engineers have also added the new Impala with advanced engineering features that improve ride, handling, safety and fuel economy. This is especially evident in the top-of-the-line Impala with a powerful V8 engine and displacement on demand.

Impala is the only Chevrolet car to have DOD, a feature that is also available in the Pontiac Grand Prix and GM truck engines. DOD is designed to increase fuel economy by 15 percent. The V8 is also designed to burn E85, a fuel mixture of 15 percent ethanol and 85 percent gasoline. This fuel is widely available in the Midwest, but is harder to find in other sections of the country.

DOWN THE ROAD

The V8 will only be available in the Impala SS that has been in production at GM's Oshawa, Ontario, plant Number One since mid-June. Chevrolet expects to build about 30-35 percent of its Impalas in this SS model.

Eventually, the SS will account for about 15 percent of total Impala sales, says Mark Clawson, product manager for this model. The average transaction price for the SS is expected to be around \$27,000, he says, but a fully loaded SS can cost as much as \$31,415.

The all-new 5.3-liter V8 marks the return of the small block engine for the first time since 1996. Its 303 horsepower at 6,000 rpm makes the 2006 Impala the fastest that has ever been built. It can accelerate from 0-60 mph in 5.7 seconds. "We're sure this car will go 140 mph," Clawson says.

Yet the Impala with the V8 gets 18 miles per gallon in city driving and 28 mpg on the highway. This economy is obtained with the help of DOD, which shuts off four cylinders when the Impala is traveling at a steady highway cruising speed. But when you need power to pass, the engine generates 323 pounds-foot of torque at 4,400 rpm to give you that extra oomph.

There are two V6 engines for lower-priced Impalas: a 3.5-liter engine and a 3.9-liter engine. I recently tested a base model Impala with the 3.5-liter engine and found it to offer plenty of power. The engine is also quiet, even at high speed. This engine can also burn E85 fuel. It generates 31 more horsepower than the 2005 model and is second only to



THE IMPALA IS GM's highest volume passenger car with a growing number of buyers who seek roominess and comfort in a sedan.

the Malibu Maxx in fuel economy in the segment.

An interesting feature of GM engineering for the Impala is that each of the engines runs on different tires. The 3.5-liter V6 models run on 224x60x16 tires; the 3.9-liter on

225x55x17 tires and the V8 on 235x50x18 tires. These are combined with variable rate rear springs and specifically tuned MacPherson struts for better handling.

One especially enjoyable thing about driving the Impala is the

quiet interior with virtually no noise or vibration. To help achieve this, laminated steel was used at the front of the dash, along with 5mm side glass (.5mm thicker than the glass in the predecessor model). Overall, the Impala has a com-

bination of performance and quality that's hard to top in this price range. In addition to the base and SS, the other models include: LT-1, LT-2, LT-3 and LTZ. Average transaction price for those models is expected to be about \$24,000.

In Katrina's wake, beware of the waterlogged car

BY G. CHAMBERS WILLIAMS III
SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS NEWS

The aftermath of Hurricane Katrina could bring a flood of a different sort to car buyers, particularly those in the South and Midwest: thousands of waterlogged vehicles that unscrupulous sellers could try to pass off to unsuspecting consumers.

Early estimates are that as many as 1.2 million vehicles in Louisiana alone may have been damaged by floodwaters from the storm, along with thousands in Mississippi, rendering at least 1 million vehicles unusable, according to the Louisiana Automobile Dealers Association.

"We had up to 65 new-car dealers in the New Orleans area completely wiped out by the storm, and many more in nearby areas were heavily damaged," said Bob Israel, executive vice president of the Louisiana Dealers Association. "We could have 100,000 to 500,000 cars under water on dealer lots."

Private owners may have aban-

doned 700,000 or more vehicles in their garages, driveways and streets when they fled the storm, Israel said. "The numbers are just massive."

And though many of these vehicles are covered by insurance, the question remains as to what will become of them after insurers pay the claims and take possession of them. Many more were not insured, and owners might try to clean them up and sell them to people in other areas because they can't file claims on them, industry officials warned.

"The sad fact is that many of them will be purchased by some disreputable people who will let them dry out, put a new battery in them, and try to sell them at just below market value," said Larry Gamache of Carfax, a nationwide service that maintains a database of the sales, mileage and damage history of vehicles for consumers and auto dealers.

When an insurer determines that a vehicle is a total loss, a "branded" title is issued, indicating the vehicle was flood-damaged. At that

point, insurers usually sell these vehicles to salvage operators.

State Farm Insurance Co., the largest insurer of cars in the storm-ravaged region, is still trying to decide what it will do with the record high number of vehicles it expects to pay off on, spokesman Phil Supple said.

While some may go to the crusher, many will find their way onto the used-car market. Most of these should have branded titles, industry officials said.

A Carfax history report, available online at www.carfax.com or often from the selling dealer, will show whether a vehicle has such a title. A report costs \$20, but consumers get a buyback guarantee on their car purchase if Carfax makes an error in not reporting a branded title, Gamache said. Not many of the salvaged vehicles are likely to show up on the lots of reputable new- or used-car dealers, said Karen Phillips, chief counsel for the Texas Automobile Dealers Association in Austin.

"Look for private owners to try to

sell these vehicles, and beware of anyone advertising on the curb — what we call curbstoners," she said.

The problems with cars that have been in floodwaters can be numerous, ranging from smelly toxic waste soaked into the carpeting and upholstery to electrical problems, rust and compromised safety equipment, including air bags, industry officials said.

"The good news about most of these cars is that when the water hit, the engines weren't running," Israel said.

That means that water may not have gotten into internal engine parts, he said.

"But the bad news," he added, "is that so much in today's cars is computer-driven, and if the water got to those computers, that's a serious problem."

Industry experts say a vehicle should automatically be considered a total loss if water gets to the midpoint on it. But some of the computer modules are lower than that, especially on newer, more high-tech vehicles.

In New Orleans, the floods were from saltwater, which is much more corrosive and particularly damaging to electrical systems, Carfax's Gamache said.

"These cars weren't sitting in pristine pool water," he said. "They are exposed to toxic waste, decaying bodies and animal waste; it's gross, gross water. Any water is going to rot any car out from the inside, but saltwater is especially pernicious. I would never buy a car that had been in a flood, period."

Insurance companies have the responsibility to dispose of cars they pay off on, Israel said. "What happens to them then often depends on their conditions. Some special operations refurbish these cars, take seats out, get them fixed, then export them out of the country."

"Hopefully they won't get back into the marketplace in the United States, but some will, of course."

Consumers can protect themselves from buying a flood-damaged vehicle by inspecting it carefully or paying a mechanic to do so, dealers and industry officials said.

"After checking the title history through Carfax, look at the car's interior, engine compartment and trunk," said Phillips, the counsel for the Texas dealers' group.

"Check under the carpet for signs of mud or rust, look at the upholstery for any fading, and check under the dash and in the trunk for dried mud. Other signs are a musty odor in the carpet, upholstery or trunk. And be sure to look underneath the auto for rust or flaking metal."

There could eventually be a shortage of affordable used cars as a result of the hurricane, officials said.

People who lost their vehicles in the storm will be shopping to replace them as soon as they get their insurance payments.

They may be in luck, thanks to the recent "employee discount" sales that the Big Three U.S. automakers have been conducting, Israel said.

"In the past three months with the employee-pricing situation, a tremendous number of vehicles have been traded in, flooding the market with quality used cars," he said. "It's ironic how the marketplace sometimes solves its own problems."

SPARE PARTS

Midsized Mazda line: With the introduction of the MAZDA6 Sport and 5-Door to accompany the sedan, Mazda has created the most extensive lineup for 2005 in the midsize category. Mazda offers a 5-speed automatic transmission and manual shift mode, which is available on all MAZDA6 sedans and wagons. Models equipped with the Sport Package now include a body-color front grille and headlight bezels, creating an aggressive stance. Side airbags are standard, with the exception of the MAZDA6 i Sedan, on which they are optional.

Continuing discounts: In an effort to clear out their remaining inventory before new models arrive this fall, a number of car dealers have started adding their own discounts. The discounts can range from an additional \$500 to \$2,000 off some models. The move comes as the impact of the big Three is waning. Most dealers say they are adding the discounts out of their own



WITH THE INTRODUCTION of the MAZDA6 Sport Wagon and 5-Door to accompany the sedan, Mazda has created the most extensive lineup for 2005 in the midsize category.

pockets. (Source: NADA)

Saturn's outlook: Saturn's all-new midsize crossover utility slated

to debut in late 2006 will be named "Outlook." It will be the third of three new vehicles to join the Saturn

their futures, too.

The Ford news came on the same day Honda quietly began offering a \$1,200 incentive to dealers on each 2005 Accord Hybrid sold through Oct. 3. Honda said the incentive was to make room for the redesigned '06 coming in November and that it still is on target to sell 23,000 Accord hybrids, its original first-year goal.

While Ford said it has the technology in place to go it alone in hybrids, the news prompted speculation about the long term.

"It's a huge commitment, and I wouldn't be surprised if for the longer term Ford jumps into the General Motors/Chrysler/BMW hybrid consortium," said Cole. "Others are looking

at the consortium, why not Ford?"

He said the advantage of joining is the savings in time and money.

"The future is uncertain. Gas prices have as much of a chance of reaching \$1.50 a gallon as they do \$4 a gallon and the rub is nobody knows what's in store," Cole said. "Bill Ford might not have mentioned the consortium today, but he didn't exclude it, either."

Ford also announced it will offer flexible fuel technology on up to 280,000 of its 2006 F-150 pickup trucks and Ford Crown Victoria, Mercury Grand Marquis and Lincoln Town Car sedans. They will then be able to burn a mixture of gas and up to 85 percent ethanol to reduce emissions.

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Thrifty Car Sales

2004 Chrysler Sebring

AT, AC, PS, PW, PDL, C/C, AM/FM, CD, Alloy Wheels

\$10,988 VIN #271568

2000 Ford Taurus A/C, Wind P/Locks, Tire Cruise, Cassette, P/Seat 3rd Row Seat, Alloy Wheels ID#272685 \$7,988	2003 Lincoln LS V8, AT, AC, PS, PW, PDL, C/C, P/Seat, AM/FM, Multi CD, ABS, Tilt, Alloy Wheels, 26,750 Miles, Moonroof, Leather VIN #656332 MUST SEE
'04 Grand Am Auto, AC, V6, Tilt, Cruise, AM/FM CD Player, Wheels & more ID#554274 \$11,888	'02 Dodge Intrepid ES AC, PW, PDL, Leather, P/Seat #234538 \$11,888
2002 Astro Wagon V8, AT, AC, PS, PW, PDL, C/C, P/Seat, AM/FM, Cass, Multi CD, ABS, Privacy Glass, Tilt, Alloy Wheels, 42,100 miles VIN # 149257 \$12,988	'04 PT Cruiser Touring AT, AC, PS, PW, PDL, AM/FM/CD #206660 \$13,888

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SELL YOUR CAR, BOAT, MOTORCYCLE THROUGH THE CLASSIFIEDS

Smaller SUVs, crossovers overtaking the biggest versions

BY RICK POPELY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

As Scott Welch, a partner in a Huntley, Ill., concrete business, shopped for a new vehicle in late August to haul his family on vacation, the price of gas was topping \$3 a gallon.

Welch shrugged off the record gas prices and zeroed in on a Chevrolet Suburban, one of the biggest and thirstiest sport-utility vehicles.

Does he really need a Suburban when regular gas is so expensive and there is a looming threat of shortages, due in part to the havoc caused by Hurricane Katrina?

"You probably don't, but if you've got the means, why not?" Welch said while shopping at Stasek Chevrolet in Wheeling, Ill.

In Welch's mind, it's the right tool for the job, regardless of gas prices. His family outgrew a Dodge Durango, a midsize SUV. He drives a full-size Chevy pickup for work, and his wife hauls the kids and shops for groceries in a Ford Windstar minivan.

Neither vehicle, he says, can carry his family, which includes three children age 4 to 10, their bikes, fishing gear and other paraphernalia, and tow a 15-foot boat.

With some SUV owners paying more than \$100 for fill-up tanks, automakers worry about how many consumers like Welch will step up to buy the huge SUVs, among the industry's most profitable vehicles.

SUV sales are up about 3 percent through August, but sales of the largest models, including the Suburban and Ford Expedition, are down nearly 10 percent as buyers shift to smaller models and car-based SUV "crossovers."

Industry forecaster J.D. Power and Associates predicts business will pick up on the big bargains next year, when General Motors and Ford roll out fresh entries, but others aren't so sure.

"There's no doubt we're seeing the effects of fuel prices on the bigger SUVs," said Bill Stasek, president of the Wheeling Chevrolet dealership. "People just aren't asking for them when they come in."

The Power Information Network, J.D. Power's data-gathering unit, says that in mid-August, full-size SUVs had sat on dealer lots an average of 102 days before being sold, compared to 70 days for

midsize models and 62 for small models.

Stasek said that during GM's employee discount promotion, when buyers snapped up midsize SUVs such as the Equinox and TrailBlazer faster than Suburbans.

Recently, Stasek still had nine 2005 Suburbans in stock and only three TrailBlazers. Normally, the reverse would be true.

"The biggest, most expensive models have taken a bit of a hit because of gas prices," he said, adding that he plans to order fewer 2006 versions of the big models.

But Mike Puffer, sales manager at MidCity Nissan in Chicago, dismissed the effects of gas prices.

"I call it the street tax to keep your wife happy. If you're smart, you'll pay it," Puffer said. "When you have a mom with six kids, a dog and the kids are on a soccer team, you need a vehicle like that."

Gas prices didn't stop Chicago resident Nick Lococo from trading a five-passenger GMC Yukon for a new Nissan Pathfinder, a larger SUV that seats seven and has more cargo room.

"With two kids, we need the space, and my wife feels safer in an SUV," Lococo said, citing traditional reasons people buy SUVs. "If it's safer for my wife and kids, that's better for me."

The EPA estimates the Pathfinder gets 15 m.p.g. in city driving (same as the Envoy), though many motorists complain they get less than the government's ratings.

"Sure that's a concern, especially when they say that gas prices are going up," said Lococo, an exercise therapist for the Veterans Administration. "We'll have to be more strategic with our driving and plan our trips more efficiently."

Because big SUVs generate most of the domestic Big Three's profits, the stakes are high for Detroit.

GM will introduce a new generation of full-size models in January, and Ford will follow suit in the fall. Chrysler's Jeep division rolls out the full-size Commander this fall.

Sales of large SUVs at GM and Ford have been falling the last few years and plunged more than 20 percent earlier this year, prompting production cuts. Then came the employee discounts, which knocked \$8,000 or more off sticker prices and outweighed consumer worries about gas prices.

Now, as gas prices hit record levels, Hurricane Katrina has idled Gulf Coast refineries and ignited

fears of shortages.

All that considered, Stasek said it's a tough call on what will happen to large SUV sales when the big discounts expire at the end of September. "You just don't know how the emotions of buyers are going to run about the price of gas, especially when there's so much about it in the media," he said.

Sales of most large SUVs fell in August. The Suburban was down 25 percent, the Expedition 40 percent and the Toyota 4Runner 16 percent.

GM market analyst Paul Ballew said gas prices were not the main reason for the decline in SUV sales. GM's sales also suffered in light of strong sales in June and July fueled by the employee discount, he said.

Ford sales analyst George Pipas took a stronger stance.

"The reality is that the traditional sport-utility market is declining," he said.

A restyled and re-engineered Ford Explorer debuts in September, but Pipas says that probably the best the company can hope for is 2006 sales being the same as this year.

Explorer sales are down 20 percent this year, and Pipas said, "the acceleration in the rate of decline has to be due to gas prices."

Ford is counting on sales of crossovers such as the Escape and Freestyle to capture buyers migrating from Explorer and Expedition.

But at Arlington Heights Ford, dealer John Guido Sr. ordered 100 Explorers and 36 Expeditions recently to replenish inventory depleted by the employee discount.

"I'm not backing off at all," Guido said. He was down to five 2005 Explorers and two Expeditions and said gas prices "hurt us only a little, and not as much as you might expect."

"I think gas will come back down to about \$2.40 or \$2.50, and then it will be a nonissue."

Nissan dealer Puffer added: "I'm not going to give up my boat because gas is \$3 a gallon, and it's the same thing for people who like or need a big SUV."

"People who would buy one on a whim, that's the guy we'll lose. Three dollars a gallon will keep him from making a big SUV his next cool car. That market will lose some peripheral sales, but the core market will remain strong."

German carmakers scramble for hybrid

BY MARK LANDLER
AND KEITH BRADSHAW
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

FRANKFURT, Germany — German carmakers, which have long favored diesel engines as their primary response to economic and environmental concerns, are scrambling to develop hybrid gasoline-electric cars as sales of these vehicles soar in many places along with fuel prices.

Volkswagen said it would develop, assemble and sell a hybrid minivan in China in cooperation with a Chinese automaker, a move that underlines the Chinese auto industry's rapid move into an advanced technological area of automotive design.

A day earlier, BMW announced that it would join an existing hybrid technology joint venture set up by DaimlerChrysler and General Motors. It did not say when it would roll out its first hybrid vehicle.

Volkswagen's announcement is its first public confirmation of plans to make and sell a hybrid anywhere in the world. It said it would develop hybrid technology on its own, rather than with a partner, for Europe and the United States, according to Reuters.

The flurry of activity, analysts said, was accelerated by recognition that hybrid vehicles could soon spread beyond niche markets. They said German carmakers, because of their focus on clean-burning diesel fuel and futuristic technologies like hydrogen, were in danger of missing out.

Toyota, which dominates the market, sold more than 60,000 hybrids in the first six months of 2005. It hopes to sell more than a million worldwide by early in the next decade. By 2008, Americans will be able to choose among some two dozen hybrid models from several carmakers.

"Until now," said Arndt Ellinghorst, an auto analyst at Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein here, "the Germans thought, 'We can make it with diesel.' They saw hybrid as a technology that was just filling a gap. Now they're seeing that, particularly in the U.S., they're missing a market."

While hybrid engines are in

their infancy in China, the country's auto industry is adopting some of the latest technology from abroad and even seeking ways to improve it. Several government ministries have been heavily subsidizing research by Chinese universities and automakers into hybrid-propulsion and fuel-cell vehicles, in the hope of leapfrogging Japanese and Western designs.

The Chinese government has been increasingly intent on energy conservation, imposing gas-mileage requirements on all models of cars, minivans and sport utility vehicles introduced after July 1, and preparing to impose steep taxes on gas guzzlers as well.

Volkswagen said it planned to develop and build a hybrid Touran minivan, in cooperation with the Shanghai Automotive Industry Corp., and begin marketing it during the Beijing Olympics in 2008. Its announcement signified the first effort by a multinational automaker to develop a hybrid in China.

A spokesman for Volkswagen in Beijing, Kai Gruber, said the company had chosen the Chinese market for its first hybrid because it was hard to sell diesel-powered cars in China.

Diesel engines provide greater fuel efficiency than gasoline engines, and Volkswagen, like BMW and Mercedes, has focused on selling diesels in Europe as world oil prices have risen in the last few years. But the quality of diesel fuel sold in China varies greatly, with drivers in some cities buying poor quality fuel with high sulfur that ruins the pollution-control equipment in Volkswagen's latest engines.

Some Chinese cities, notably Beijing, ban diesel engines in cars, citing environmental concerns about emissions of particulates. Hybrids make sense in markets where diesel cars have no big share, Gruber said.

Volkswagen has already begun collaborating with Tongji University in Shanghai to develop fuel-cell models and said Thursday that it would work with the university to develop the advanced electronics needed to make the electrical and mechanical systems oper-

The flurry of activity, analysts said, was accelerated by recognition that hybrid vehicles soon spread beyond niche markets.

ate together in a hybrid.

Honda, Toyota and other carmakers, which have not announced plans to build hybrids in China, said a spokesman said the company was aware that fast-growing Chinese auto sales might make hybrids attractive for the market.

For BMW, the decision to join the GM-DaimlerChrysler venture was driven by recognition that more alternatives to fossil fuels, such as hydrogen, might be coming away from it. It first thought it had built a version of its 7-series sedan that runs on liquid hydrogen or gasoline, but it hopes to develop a cell version in the next few years, though it acknowledges that the market for it will be small.

A BMW spokesman, Klaus Blabst, said the company decided to add hybrid technology to a strategy that includes clean-burning diesel engines. BMW, based in Munich, said it was attracted to GM-DaimlerChrysler because of its focus on "plug-in" hybrid engines, in which a vehicle is powered during city driving and can travel long distances.

"Two-mode engines have benefits in short-range driving, but they also perform well on the autobahn," Blabst said.

Top executives from GM, Ford, BMW and DaimlerChrysler will appear together at the Frankfurt auto show on Monday to promote their new partnership.

With oil prices still near record levels, analysts said, the industry gathering was dominated by questions about just how the carmakers intend to respond.

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

1170 9th St 15 - \$346,000
330 Bryant Av - \$908,000
1032 Court St - \$675,000
2629 Eagle Av - \$830,000
402 Haight Av - \$670,000
914 Lila St - \$750,000
1008 Pacific Av - \$740,000
2021 Pacific Av - \$630,000
1528 Santa Clara - \$665,000
1511 Schiller St - \$600,000
139 Sweet Rd - \$1,038,000
1015 Taylor Av - \$739,000
1053 Via Bonita - \$323,500
1610 Walnut St - \$740,000

ALBANY

555 Pierce 1336 - \$405,000

BERKELEY

1626 Acton St - \$658,500
1322 Alcatraz Av - \$625,000
1564 Allison Wy - \$595,000
20 Alta Rd - \$841,000
441 Boynton Av - \$860,000
1034 Camelia St - \$625,000
1222 Cornell Av - \$659,000
1745 Francisco 1 - \$890,000
1397 Gilman St - \$500,000
2107 Hearst Av - \$1,100,000
1639 Julia St - \$500,000
1011 Keith Av - \$925,000
2120 Parker St - \$731,000
1837 Sonoma - \$1,011,000
439 Spruce St - \$1,100,000
496 Spruce St - \$1,300,000
35 Tamalpais Rd - \$681,000
1825 Vine St 6 - \$405,000
2572 Virginia 5 - \$550,000

EL CERRITO

1641 Arlington - \$728,000
717 Balra Dr - \$775,000
1326 Everett St - \$612,500
1341 Everett St - \$605,000
6416 Hagen Bl - \$625,000
1220 Liberty St - \$412,000
1513 Liberty St - \$700,000
2308 Mono Av - \$550,000
409 Norvell St - \$575,000

EL SOBRANTE

16 Bruno Ct - \$670,000
547 Chabre Ct - \$450,000
649 El Centro Rd - \$530,000
3430 SP Dam Rd 52 - \$345,000
4168 SPDam Rd B - \$352,000

EMERYVILLE

1121 40th St 1301 - \$570,000
2 Admiral Dr B286 - \$450,500
1 Captain Dr D357 - \$403,000

6363 Christie 1312 - \$456,000
6 Commodore C441 - \$281,000

KENSINGTON

117 Lawson Rd - \$606,000

OAKLAND

1456 101st Av - \$407,000
1941 101st Av - \$320,000
555 10th St 118 - \$410,000
1616 25th Av - \$516,000
2348 27th Av - \$300,000
959 34th St - \$325,000
1501 37th Av B7 - \$371,500
1501 37th Av B8 - \$380,000
196 39th St - \$500,000
280 41st St - \$675,000
1432 44th Av - \$560,000
385 51st St - \$579,000
894 56th St - \$609,000
947 56th St - \$560,000
2330 62nd Av - \$425,000
2563 62nd Av - \$404,000
1074 62nd St - \$570,000
1084 65th St - \$675,000
1108 73rd Av - \$282,000
2701 74th Av - \$385,000
2744 76th Av - \$350,000
2609 77th Av - \$410,000
1070 81st Av - \$437,000
1614 82nd Av - \$435,000
1920 82nd Av - \$385,000
1932 82nd Av - \$699,000
1667 84th Av - \$525,000
1605 88th Av - \$420,000
2426 89th Av - \$477,000
1267 94th Av - \$320,000
1309 95th Av - \$500,000
2702 99th Av - \$490,000
1937 9th Av - \$510,000
10936 Acalanes - \$404,000
5 Ambler Ln - \$376,000
7 Ambler Ln - \$405,000
10830 Apricot St - \$410,000
2200 Arrowhead Dr - \$809,000
1662 Aulsebrook - \$370,000
1183 Bayview - \$570,000
389 Belmont 207 - \$511,000
9043 Broadway Tr - \$470,000
5508 Broadway - \$819,000
4140 Brookdale Av - \$500,000
12650 Brookpark Rd - \$750,000
2915 Burdeck Dr - \$900,000
2842 Burton Dr - \$904,000
180 Caldecott 116 - \$394,500
711 Carlston Av - \$906,500
373 Caswell Av - \$210,000
935 Center St - \$670,000
3308 Chestnut St - \$400,000
4820 Commonwealth - \$1,050,000
460 Crescent St - \$555,000
15 Croxton Av - \$700,000
9229 D St - \$440,000
3468 Deering St - \$230,000
3820 Delmont Av - \$665,000

8521 Dowling St - \$425,000
2926 East 18th St - \$768,000
3417 East 18th St - \$585,000
2612 East 22nd St - \$370,000
2616 East 25th St - \$445,000
1316 East 27th St - \$546,000
1841 East 33rd St - \$415,000
57 Edgemont Wy - \$810,000
55 Fairmont 210 - \$290,000
2442 Foothill Bl - \$510,000
5514 Fremont St - \$475,000
3231 Galindo St - \$515,000
61 Hazelwood Ct - \$409,000
2835 Helen St - \$414,000
3445 Henrietta St - \$759,000
8107 Hillside St - \$370,000
2329 Hughes Av - \$455,000
8206 Iris St - \$400,000
612 Jean St A - \$542,000
494 Jean St - \$580,000
1 Lakeside 909 - \$525,500
1 Lakeside 910 - \$385,000
3770 Latimer Pl - \$525,000
9841 Lawlor St - \$520,000
9949 Lawlor St - \$585,000
320 Lee St 1202 - \$527,000
320 Lee St 503 - \$360,000
325 Lenox Av 203 - \$375,000
181 Louvaine Av - \$405,000
319 MacArthur Bl - \$803,000
5945 Marden Ln - \$730,000
4609 Market St - \$280,000
905 MLK Jr Wy - \$506,000
886 Mend Av - \$515,000
5729 Merriewood - \$770,000
321 Modoc Av - \$700,000
4504 Montgomery 3 - \$585,000
2936 Morcom Av - \$495,000
3015 Morcom Av - \$585,000
7572 Mountain Bl 3 - \$420,000
2673 Mountain Gate - \$946,000
6151 Oakdale Av - \$650,000
370 Oakland Av - \$575,000
424 Orange St 108 - \$300,000
196 Orange St - \$935,000
7114 Orall St - \$343,500
824 Paloma Av - \$950,000
3106 Partridge Av - \$422,000
3529 Penniman Av - \$540,000
5823 Picardy Dr - \$533,000
9030 Plymouth St - \$260,000
9327 Plymouth St - \$465,000
2859 Regatta Dr - \$672,500
2863 Regatta Dr - \$665,500
31 Rio Vista Av - \$675,000
6907 Sayre Dr - \$600,000
7601 Spencer St - \$570,000
4166 St. Andrews - \$750,000
30 Starview Dr - \$1,120,000
9716 Thermal St - \$475,000
9935 Voltaire Av - \$520,000
7344 Weld St - \$650,000
1240 Willow St - \$415,000

PIEDMONT

1007 Ashmount - \$1,215,000
528 Blair Av - \$1,390,000

1909 Oakland - \$1,790,000
1001 Park Ln - \$1,051,000

RICHMOND

517 18th St - \$396,000
344 19th St - \$275,000
566 2nd St - \$355,000
652 31st St - \$580,000
163 4th St - \$360,000
625 5th St - \$450,000
136 Bayside - \$372,500
170 Bayside C - \$336,000
1707 Bissell Av - \$350,000
1201 Brickyard 408 - \$550,000
5920 Burlingame - \$574,000
3621 Cerrito Av - \$800,000
9 Chanslor Av - \$402,000
238 Chesley Av - \$315,000
109 Commodore - \$499,000
2021 Cutting Bl - \$485,000
2529 Downer Av - \$505,000
2726 East Ct - \$399,000
3426 Fleetwood - \$585,000
1917 Francisco Wy - \$575,000
2010 Garvin Av - \$432,000
3030 Groom Dr - \$515,000
538 Harbour Wy - \$400,000
644 Humboldt St - \$460,000
817 Johnson Dr - \$285,000
3117 Keith Dr - \$525,000
2670 Lancaster Dr - \$600,000
20 Lighthouse Ln - \$735,000
2516 Lincoln Av - \$520,000
2658 Longview Dr - \$595,000
2430 McBryde Av - \$400,000
2846 McBryde Av - \$420,000
4313 McGlothen - \$375,000
1311 Merced St - \$560,000
4229 Ohio Av - \$415,000
3648 Park Ridge Dr - \$782,500
1505 San Joaquin St - \$470,000
2816 San Mateo St - \$553,000
3105 Shane Dr - \$400,000
5528 Solano Av - \$610,000
325 South 25th St - \$560,000
354 South 35th St - \$532,000
360 South 36th St - \$415,000
428 South 37th St - \$300,000
379 South 50th St - \$380,000
509 Tremont Av - \$505,000
1871 Tulare Av - \$500,000
529 Verde Av - \$338,000
1012 View Dr - \$465,500
4937 Wagon Wheel - \$735,000
3691 West Ct - \$380,000

SAN LEANDRO

1614 136th Av - \$570,000
1224 139th Av - \$540,000
1258 144th Av - \$390,000
207 147th Av B - \$362,000
964 Allice Av - \$480,000
425 Alvarado St - \$647,000
15873 Anchorage Dr - \$789,000
402 Callan Av - \$416,000

1169 Camelia Ct - \$739,000
15107 Churchill St - \$545,000
800 Dolores Av - \$532,000
14101 E. 14th St 102 - \$300,000
14101 E. 14th St 115 - \$285,000
15339 Elvira Dr - \$550,000
15366 Elvira Dr - \$560,000
1337 Fargo Av - \$559,000
345 Garcia Av - \$549,000
15205 Hesperian Bl B - \$440,000
14443 Kings Ct - \$409,000
2001 Laura Av - \$500,000
890 Linwood Wy - \$605,000
16869 Los Reyes - \$542,000
1110 Lucille St - \$505,000
16181 Marcella St - \$586,000
16118 Maubert Av - \$950,000
2062 Miramonte - \$460,000
948 Oakes Bl - \$755,000
231 Suffolk Dr - \$540,000
1054 Victoria Av - \$500,000

SAN LORENZO

16928 Genevieve - \$508,500
16017 Penn Av - \$635,000
1568 Via Barrett - \$575,000
15746 Via Esmond - \$605,000
16061 Via Pinale - \$525,000
16045 Via Segundo - \$590,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 14
LOWEST PRICE: \$323,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,038,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$739,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$682,464

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$405,000

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST PRICE: \$405,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,300,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$681,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$766,132

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 9
LOWEST PRICE: \$412,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$775,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$612,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$620,278

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$345,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$670,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$450,000

AVERAGE PRICE

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST PRICE: \$405,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$405,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$405,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$405,000

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$806,000

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 10
LOWEST PRICE: \$405,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,300,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$681,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$766,132

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 10
LOWEST PRICE: \$405,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,300,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$681,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$766,132

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 51
LOWEST PRICE: \$323,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,038,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$739,000
AVERAGE



MECHANIC LEONARD MCLEAN installs the necessary wiring for a starter interference box on a Ford SUV at North Texas Motorcars in East Dallas, Texas. **above.** At right, he holds a starter interference box before installing on a Ford SUV. McLean is the shop supervisor for the used car dealership that utilizes the disabler boxes. If a customer fails to make a payment for the month, the car will no longer start when the ignition is turned on.



Technology shuts down vehicles if the payments aren't made

BY TERRY BOX
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DALLAS — Most of the credit-financed customers at North Texas Motorcars learn to live with the lights. They're attached to a black box on the dashboard and start flashing on the first day a car payment is late. On the fourth day, after two more days of warning lights, the car won't start.

"I would not undertake buy-here-pay-here without this system," said Ray Williamson, president of North Texas Motorcars, which sells about 50 vehicles a month and installs boxes in each of them. There's just too much risk."

The box — called a starter interrupt unit — is used mostly at used-car dealerships that provide financing to customers with bad credit. But other segments of the auto industry may adopt it, particularly if consumers' credit ratings continue to decline.

"I can see this coming," said Michael R. Linn, chief executive of the National Independent Automobile Dealers Association, which is based in Arlington, Texas, and represents 19,000 used-car dealers nationwide.

"The technology is there. Look at something like (General Mo-

tors') OnStar. It can already open doors and notify emergency authorities, and all of that. It could certainly shut a car down."

The On Time unit Williamson uses is marketed by Payment Protection Systems Inc. of Temecula, Calif., and is one of three or four such systems currently available. Mike Simon, president and chief executive, said On Time sales have increased 40 percent since 1999.

The company has also begun selling On Time units equipped with GPS that some mainstream used-car dealers are installing on \$20,000-plus luxury cars.

"Some people have the income and assets to buy a Mercedes-Benz but still have credit problems," Simon said. "This takes a lot of the risk out of it, just like on the lower end."

He believes the devices could be used in the new cars as well.

"In the auto industry, there are prime and subprime buyers in every segment," Simon said. "Even though you qualify for a new Ford or an SUV, you might still be subprime because of your credit history. You can put this in a vehicle and probably get the buyer a lower interest rate."

Disabler devices have been

available for three years and are used at about 15 percent of the total used car lots in the United States, officials estimate.

The customers typically have damaged or no credit and pay interest rates up to 26 percent. The vehicles often have 70,000 or more miles on them and cost \$7,000 to \$10,000 — or roughly \$70 to \$100 a week.

Andrea Gooden, a nurse at a geriatric-care facility in Dallas, has bought four cars with the devices on them and says she accepts them. Gooden drives a 2002 Honda Accord and is helping a daughter at the University of Houston with her car payment.

"The deal was, I make the first payment of the month and my daughter makes the second," said Gooden, 46, of Mesquite, Texas. "It warned her when she didn't make the payment on time, and when it got to four days, the car quit running. She learned not to do that again."

Note lots have long been the auto industry's roughest segment. But without them, industry officials say, many working-class people would have to rely on public transportation to get to their jobs. About 35 percent of the nation's

54,000 used-car dealers operate buy-here/pay-here lots and contend with default rates as high as 40 percent.

Systems such as On Time permit dealers to "drill down" even deeper with severely credit-damaged customers and still have some assurance that their only collateral on the high-risk loans — the vehicles — can be retrieved if the buyers default.

"Nearly every Saturday, we talk with someone who has been to seven or eight different buy-here/pay-here lots and was turned down at all of them," Williamson said.

"More people in this country have bad credit than have good credit," added James Ziegler, a retail auto consultant in Duluth, Ga. "If somebody didn't take a chance on these people, they wouldn't be able to work."

Simon of On Time said the systems dramatically reduce late payments.

"We have taken a 70 percent delinquency rate in the buy-here/pay-here business and transformed it to a 96 percent on-time

rate," he said. "Now some mainstream finance companies are even saying, 'I'll finance these cars.'"

Moreover, the devices — despite their intrusive role — actually improve customer satisfaction, some dealers say.

"The benefits of this system are enormous," Williamson said. "The value of a happy customer in buy-here/pay-here is almost incalculable. If they have a good experience and make their payments on time, they will tell their uncles, their aunts, their brothers, their neighbors. That's how we live."

When a car is paid off, the box can be easily removed, officials say. But the device is still complicated enough that most customers can't disable one.

Gooden said the system helped reduce the interest rate on her car to 13.9 percent.

The On Time system is usually mounted on the bottom edge of the dashboard and wired into the car's starter. The box contains a microprocessor into which the finance company programs the frequency of payments, usually

weekly or twice a month. The unit costs about \$220.

"It has a clock, a calendar and a backup battery," Simon said. "It knows when a payment is due and how much of a grace period you get."

If the payment is made before the grace period expires, the customer is given a six-digit code to type into the keypad. That allows them to start the car for another week or two, depending on their pay period.

If they fail to make the payment, the "magic black box," as Woodson calls it, shuts the car down. It will not disrupt power to a vehicle that is running, and industry officials say they believe its use is legal.

"If you are collecting on 75 percent of your loans, that's pretty good," said Williamson of North Texas Motorcars. "If we've jumped to 85 to 90 percent, that's really successful."

"I'm 64. By the time I'm 84, 80 percent of the car lots will have this system. It's one of the most significant developments in this business

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General Motors unveils the Chevrolet Tahoe for 2007

BY MARK PHELAN
DETROIT FREE PRESS

DETROIT — The new SUVs from General Motors debuted recently as Chevrolet unveiled the 2007 Chevrolet Tahoe, a bigger, better looking, more powerful and fuel-efficient replacement for the truck that powered GM's profits for the last four years.

The SUV is vital to GM returning to profitability and to the fate of thousands of jobs at assembly plants and suppliers in Detroit and across North America.

It hits the market when some observers think buyers may have turned away from big SUVs because of rising fuel prices and changing tastes.

That would be a disaster for GM. The cash flow from its big trucks dwarfs the gross domestic product of some countries, and the income helps fund everything from pensions to the development of new cars.

"GM is committed to full-size sport-utilities," company vice president for sales Mark LaNeve said. "The full-size SUV market is

not going away" because many buyers need the combination of room and towing capability the vehicles provide.

Big SUVs are one of the few areas where GM is the clear market leader. Its vehicles account for more than 60 percent of sales in the segment, and LaNeve expects the new models to defend that position.

The new Tahoe should go on sale in January. It's the first in a family of new full-size SUVs GM will launch in the first half of 2006. The 2007 Cadillac Escalade and GMC Yukon also hit the market in January, while the Escalade ESX and EXT, Chevy Suburban and Avalanche and GMC Yukon XL will roll into dealerships in the second quarter of 2006.

Full-size SUVs are among GM's biggest moneymakers. Earlier this year, the desperate automaker redirected vast resources to rush the new models into production.

GM dominated the market for big SUVs for years, accounting for nearly two out of every three sold. When their sales began to slip this

year, the big SUVs became emblematic of the automaker's woes as GM lost billions of dollars.

The new SUVs are the key to turning that around, and they are part of a massive investment program that will also lead to all-new models of GM's million-plus-selling full-size pickups in 2007. The family of new trucks is code-named GMT 900.

General Motors may have hit pay dirt with the program.

The best-selling of the new SUVs — a two-wheel-drive Chevrolet Tahoe with a 5.3-liter V8 engine — will get 20.5 mpg in combined city and highway driving, GM executives said.

"GM already leads this segment in fuel economy," LaNeve said. "We're better than Ford or Toyota — way better than Nissan — and the new SUVs are better," thanks to aerodynamic designs and new technologies. A brand-new six-speed automatic transmission that arrives sometime in 2006 will reduce fuel consumption further, and GM is working feverishly to get fuel-sipping diesel engines into the SUVs.

"Better fuel economy would make a big difference," said Jennifer Murray, 24, of St. Clair Shores. Murray figures she gets 15 to 16 mpg in her Oldsmobile Bravada midsize SUV, which is considerably smaller than the 2007 Tahoe. "With gas prices this high, all I do is drive to and from work."

Surging gasoline prices drove many customers away from the current Tahoe and other big trucks, said Mark Nino, 35, a salesman at Matthews Hargreaves Chevrolet in Royal Oak.

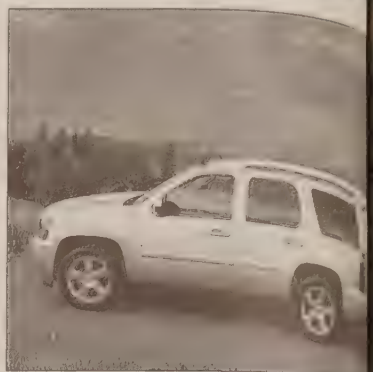
"A lot of people are coming in looking to get out of big trucks and into smaller cars. Good fuel economy in the new SUVs will absolutely help. The new looks are going to be a draw, too."

The big Cadillac and GMC SUVs look distinctively different from the Tahoe, thanks to unique hoods, lights and grilles.

All the SUVs share a wider track — the distance between the wheels — and sheet metal that makes them look smaller than they actually are.

All the new SUVs will offer safety equipment that includes standard stability control and optional air bags for all three rows of seats. The trucks' entirely new chassis were also designed not to ride up over smaller vehicles in a crash. Rear-object detection and

rear video will be available. The interior features more materials than GM's current second-row seats, which are designed for easy access to the third row. Power windows, row seats and a power window be optional.

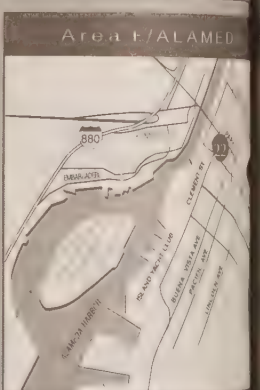
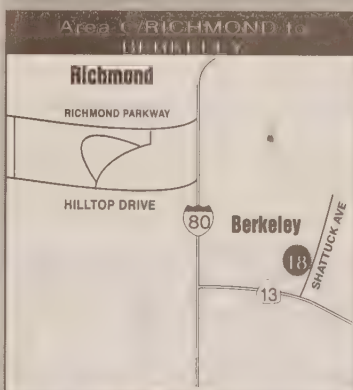
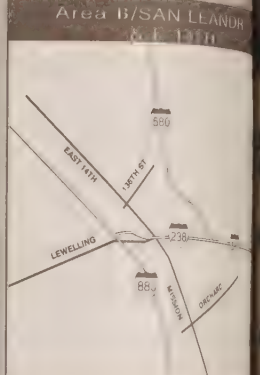
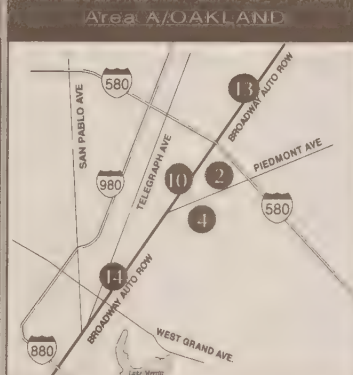
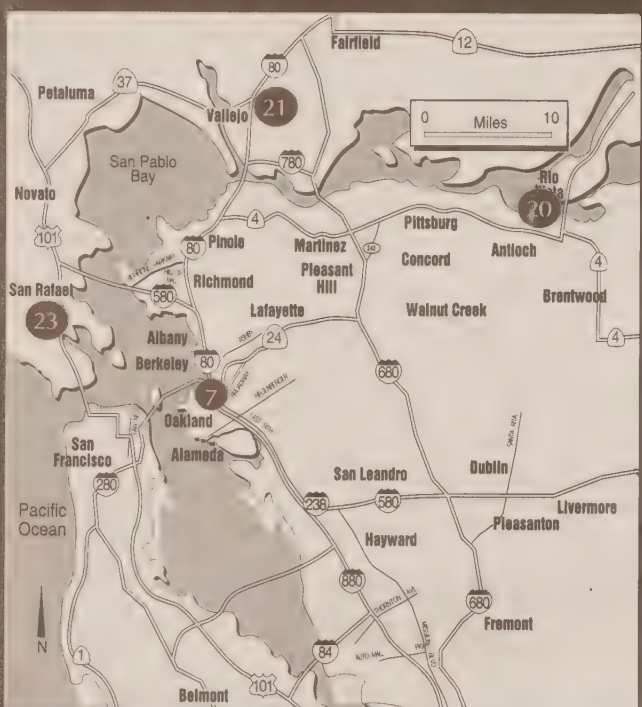


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Billion dollar-a-year chopper industry is cruising right along

BY TERRY BOX
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS
FORT WORTH, Texas — Tools rattle on tabletops when American IronHorse workers fire up a flamed, fat-tired chopper fresh off the assembly line.

These days, the mechanical claps of V-Twin thunder echo regularly through the Fort Worth factory — a joyfully noisy indicator that the chopper and custom cruiser motorcycle business is on a roll.

"The fad is becoming a fixture," said Wil Garland, chief executive of American IronHorse.

Once viewed mostly as fringe bikes for thugs and radicals, choppers and custom cruisers are so hot that they're establishing their own segment in the industry, alongside mainstream cruisers and sport bikes, industry observers say.

Driven by popular cable TV shows such as Discovery Channel's "American Choppers," demand for the impractical \$30,000 to \$100,000 bikes has at least tripled in recent years, some estimate. The segment is roughly a \$1 billion-a-year business with a 2 percent share of the overall motorcycle market — an estimated 25,000 sales annually.

And Dallas is near the heart of this two-wheeled craze.

American IronHorse, a 10-year-old privately held company, is one of the nation's largest builders of "manufactured" choppers and custom cruisers with 500 employees and annual revenue of \$100 million last year. The company said it's had a 62 percent increase in sales this year.

And two colorful, high-profile chopper builders have shops in the area: Martin Brothers Bikes in Duncanville, Texas, which won the Discovery Channel's "World Biker Build-Off" last year; and Stokers in Dallas, whose owner, Rick Fairless, is featured in the new Speed Channel show "Texas Hardtails."

Imagewise, choppers and custom cruisers have blasted past venerable Harley-Davidson to become the ultimate in biker cool, some say.

"Motorcycling is very much about individuality — especially the V-Twin segment," said Jeff Long, vice president of design at American IronHorse, of the big two-cylinder bikes. "Harleys got to a point where they all looked the same. A chopper looks unique."

"A Harley is a blank canvas," added Jason Martin, president of Martin Brothers Bikes. "We take it to a whole new extreme."

Harley-Davidson officials declined to comment on the growing segment, saying they don't talk about competitors. In July, the company reported shipments of 77,128 motorcycles in the second quarter, down 6 percent from the same period in 2004, and revenue just over \$1 billion, a 1.4 percent drop.

Milwaukee-based Harley-Davidson is still by far the biggest bike builder with 329,000 sales expected this year. American IronHorse and Big Dog, the two largest builders of manufactured exotics, each sell 4,000 to 5,000 bikes annually, analysts estimate.

"Certainly, this fad is coming out of Harley's hide," industry analyst Don J. Brown said. "These bikes are a drop in the bucket, but they are growing very rapidly. And the growth is significant because these bikes are aimed at guys who have money to spend."

They will probably continue to claim market share, officials say.

"Demographics are on our side," said American IronHorse's Garland. "As baby boomers age, they want to go back to their childhood. And then there's the 'iPod phenomenon.' Everyone wants to be different now and make a statement with their belongings. That plays into custom bikes."

Compared with a Harley-Davidson, choppers and custom cruisers tend to be longer and lower, with a more menacing stance. Most run S&S V-Twin engines that look like Harley-Davidson motors but are larger and vastly more powerful — most of them generating at least 110 horsepower, vs. the Harley's 70.

Also, choppers are fitted with extended front forks that give them that Dennis Hopper/Hells Angels nose-in-the-air attitude. Serious paint, wild graphics and heavy chrome are requisite parts of the package.

This tiny but powerful segment has two basic levels: the manufactured choppers and custom cruisers that American IronHorse and others build; and the ultrawild, custom-built, \$75,000-plus choppers created by small builders such as Fairless and the Martin brothers.

Many of the estimated 200 bikes built annually in the ultrawild

category are essentially garage sculptures — they're rarely ridden because they're hard to insure and a pain to drive. They are called "bar-hoppers," bikes driven on short, high-profile, tavern-to-tavern runs.

"Most of the time, you roll them around from one spot in the garage to another and just admire them," said Long of American IronHorse.

Nonetheless, ultraexotics attract attention and customers — if not much profit.

At Martin Brothers, the customers for these ultrawild bikes include a "big" radio disc jockey in Northern California, a Chicago developer and an energy broker in Southern California, said Jason Martin, 34.

His brother Joe Martin, 35, custom-builds about 10 bikes a year, while Jason oversees a lucrative exhaust-pipe manufacturing business that generates \$200,000 a month in revenue.

Fairless earns most of his income from selling more mainstream manufactured choppers, motorcycle apparel and from his restaurant-bar.

"Custom bikes ring the bells around here, but they don't pay the bills," said Fairless, 48, who once built a \$125,000 purple chopper for Dallas Star Jason Arnett.

"When we make a bike for someone, we're making wages. You make \$20,000 or \$30,000 in profit, but that's after six months of work. I can make that in a weekend selling American IronHorse and Big Dog bikes."

Most customers for the macho motorcycles are — not surprisingly — men between 35 and 55, with the vast majority of buyers older than 40. They generally have household incomes of more than \$100,000 and often own a business or run one.

Cable TV drew James Carter of Mesquite, Texas, to wild choppers. But when he decided to get a bike, he opted for a more practical 2005 "Slammer" custom cruiser from American IronHorse.

Carter, 35, said that when weather permits, he rides the big blue cruiser seven miles from his home to the auto-repair shop he owns in Mesquite.

"I didn't buy it for comfort," he said. "I bought it for style, and I bought it to ride."

Like most customers, Carter financed the \$30,000 bike, which he bought in June.

"Eighty percent of the bikes we sell, we finance," said Fairless, whose Stokers Dallas sells about 100 American IronHorse and Big Dog bikes a year, 100 used motorcycles and six to 12 high-end, custom-built bikes. "They go up to eight years on the loan and make payments of \$300, \$400, \$500 a month, plus insurance."

Martin, Fairless and American IronHorse say they are profitable. But that's a fairly recent development, Martin and Garland said.

"For us, the business has only been stable for the last year or so," Martin said.

Steve Bohn, editor of Hot Bike magazine, said television has made sudden stars of choppers, but many builders have been refining their bikes for a decade.

"We all want to outdo the other guy," Bohn said. "And all of the hard work that all of these companies have put into this segment is finally paying off."

Essence of a chopper

- A raked frame and extended forks that convey a stretched, nose-in-the-air look.

- A small, chromed billet headlight.

- A tall, skinny, 21-inch front wheel and a wide 18-inch rear wheel with a low-profile 280-millimeter tire that's fatter than the tires on most cars. They should ride on custom wheels so wild and severe that you can barely touch them without cutting your hands.

- Chromed sweeper handlebars.

- A stretched chopper gas tank so sleek and stylish that owners break into a heavy sweat just thinking about putting gas in it.

- A polished, 111-cubic-inch, 110-horsepower S&S brand engine and six-speed close-ratio transmission. Very serious stuff. A 124-cubic inch motor with more than 120 horsepower is available for hard-core types.

- A radical exhaust system of any design so long as its hoarse potato-potato bark disrupts television reception.

- A wide, bobbed rear fender and small solo seat that discourages thoughts of cross-country trips.

- At least 20 pounds of chrome plating.



AMERICAN IRONHORSE MOTORCYCLE CO. vice president of design Jeff Long, left, and CEO Wil Garland pose in their Fort Worth, Texas, production plant with a 2005 Texas Chopper, one of their most popular models.



ANDY GILLHAM TESTS an American Ironhorse chopper after assembly at the company's Fort Worth, Texas, production plant.



RICK FAIRLESS, the star of the Speed Channel series Texas Hardtails, and his wife, Sue, at Stokers Ice House in Dallas, Texas.

- A retina-searing paint job — preferably something such as Nuclear Blast Orange — with flames, stripes, scallops and skulls.
- The motorcycle industry is a \$22.8 billion-a-year business that includes sales, service, apparel, parts and other items.
- Motorcycle sales surged to 1,050,000 last year, the first time since 1982 that total sales surpassed the 1 million mark.
- 2005 sales are running about 2 percent above last year's and should give the industry its 13th year of increasing sales.
- The cruiser segment includes Harley-Davidson's other big bikes, accounts for roughly half of all motorcycle sales and is by far the largest segment in the industry.

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MOTOR MATTERS

HUMMER: It not only fits in a garage, it may also fit in your budget. The H3 tricks the eye into thinking that it lives as large as its siblings, but it is actually closer to the Jeep Grand Cherokee.

The '06 Hummer: A cool can of hummer lite

BY JERRY GARRETT
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

The Hummer H3 is a clever option, an SUV with a fun mirror built in. You think you're a Clydesdale, but it's a Shetland pony. The H3 is the infant terrible of the Hummer clan, which until now consisted of the H1, which looks like a report to boot camp, and the H2, which is often seen clubbing wearing dubs, in South America. The H3 tricks the eye into thinking that it lives as large as its siblings, but it is actually closer to the Jeep Grand Cherokee — only a few inches narrower than the H1 and 4 inches narrower than the Chevrolet Suburban. Of course, the H3 has a Katrina climate, with \$3,000 of air conditioning and a distinct shift from guzzlers, may not be the time to promote an SUV that is so large, in perception if not reality, it could become a whip-boy for environmentalists and its appearance alone. While the 4,700-pound H3 is a model of fuel efficiency, it is far less than the typical six-

or eight-cylinder SUV. The engine, a 220-horsepower in-line 5-cylinder, won't smoke the tires, and on the highway it approaches 20 mpg — on regular unleaded, no less. The H3 also fools the wallet. While it looks expensive, at \$29,500 it's a relative bargain; by comparison, the H1 (now called the H1 Alpha) costs \$110,271 more. With the H3, General Motors has actually performed a neat trick. All the factors that would appear to be weaknesses for the H3 have been turned into strengths. Little wonder that this baby Hummer has, since it went on sale in late spring, more than doubled overall sales of GM's tiny Hummer division. Other nonmilitary Hummers account for about 30,000 sales a year; GM had hoped the H3 would add another 30,000 in the 2006 model year. In fact, sales are averaging nearly 5,000 monthly, or a potential 60,000 a year. That is welcome news at the beleaguered company. Why shouldn't H3 be noticed? In a bland universe of me-too SUVs, the distinctive styling oozes attitude. Susan Docherty, the for-

mer Cadillac executive who is Hummer's general manager, said retaining the brand's styling cues — flat roof, slab sides, grimacing grille — was vital. "Everyone recognizes a Hummer," she said. "But the H3 is for those who aspired to a Hummer in the past, but felt it was outside their price range, physically too big for them, or they didn't like the mileage. In these areas, the H3 is more acceptable." Driving an H1, or even an H2, is like having a rolling ZIP code; it is a neighborhood on wheels. Everyone sits in a personal cubicle, isolated from fellow travelers by a center console as wide and long as a New Mexican mesa. Communicating requires shouting over the engine and road noise. Once, while driving an H1, I used my cell phone to call my daughter. She was in the back seat. The H3's interior is far more intimate, but hardly claustrophobic. The back seat will accommodate three people, but it's much more comfortable for two, especially if they flip down the wide armrest-console. Because of the boxy

design, space for heads, legs and shoulders is beyond ample and closer to ludicrous. Controls are well marked, logically placed and straightforward to use. The driver sits comfortably and is high enough to feel in command of all he surveys; still, he might wish to survey a bit more — especially when parking and making off-road maneuvers. It is hard to determine the ends of the H3, or its wheel paths, without a spotter (not included). A back-up camera (not available) would also be helpful. Personally, I was delighted to start the engine and hear the rushing of the fans, which reminded me of the combat version, the HMMWV M1114, that I drove recently while reporting from Baghdad. While I took the noise as a reassuring sign that I was in a true Hummer, others might find the roar less endearing. Some have grumbled that the 3.5-liter Vortec, the only engine available, is underwhelming. But the power, or any lack thereof, was also not an issue for me. The H3 can get to 60 miles an hour, from a dead stop, in less than 9 sec-

onds. Hummer hints that a turbocharged or supercharged engine option may be added. A five-speed manual transmission is standard, and well suited to my gear-slammng Type A driving style; it also delivers a little better fuel economy than the optional four-speed automatic. (The steep price of that option, \$1,695, includes a stability control system.) Also standard are responsive antilock brakes, traction control and tire pressure monitors. So is an electronically operated four-wheel-drive system with a two-speed transfer case. (You'll pay extra for the ultra-low gearing and locking differential that you'll need for hard-core off-roading.) The H3 has enough up-and-down wheel travel to roll right over a 16-inch rock, even with the standard 32-inch tires (33's are optional). Adventure seekers can ford up to 2 feet of water or climb a 60-degree grade. The bigger, pricier Hummers can do a little better. H3 borrows its architecture from the Chevrolet Colorado and GMC Canyon, yet feels tougher and more capable than those midsize pickups. One might expect the highway

manners of such an off-road specialist to be loutish, but the H3 was as at home on the road as it was on the range. Steering was responsive and had a solid on-center feel, without a sense that it had too much power assist. A real plus is the tight turning radius: At 37 feet, it is comparable to a compact Chevy Cobalt's. Most surprising, the H3 is perhaps the most satisfying to drive of all the GM sport utilities. I had some gripes, though not big ones. The rear seats don't fold flush with the cargo floor, and the maximum cargo volume of 55 cubic feet is the least of any midsize SUV. I also wish side curtain air bags were standard, not a \$395 option. Overall, the base H3 includes more goodies than an Oscar presenter's swag bag. A \$3,125 luxury package adds heated leather seats and enough additional stuff to ensure a decadent driving experience. I particularly liked the double-long sunroof (\$800) and the tubular step rails (\$695), which will be appreciated by anyone wishing to enter and exit with some decorum. Even with all those extras, the H3 carries a sticker price of about \$36,000. Finally, then, here is a Hummer that not only fits in a garage, it may also fit in your budget.

Owner rallies are great for avid RVers

BY JEFF JOHNSTON
MOTOR MATTERS

RV manufacturers own or sponsor clubs dedicated to RVs produced by those manufacturers. This is true for most larger companies and many smaller ones as well. These clubs have frequent rallies and other gatherings, such as campouts and group vacations. The gatherings give RV owners a chance to enjoy company with others with similar interests in vehicles and time activities. Country Coach, a manufacturer of Class A motorhomes, recently held an owner rally in Eugene, Ore. The rally was based at the Lane County Fairgrounds, was the company's annual gathering for owners of Country Coach products. It was the 19th Annual Class A rally and had an "Endless Summer" theme, and was typical of the many rallies that encompassed all of the events and activities for such an RV rally. The Eugene rally drew approximately 290 vehicles or just over 600 people, including 75 new drivers by first-timers to the event. The hosts had five days of activities planned for their attendees. To start, the local chamber of commerce and tourist bureau provided a variety of information for the benefit of out-of-towners. Local walking, bicycling and watersports facilities were detailed, as were historic points of interest. A guide to local restaurants, service facilities and other services was in the package, too. Attendees had no lack for things to do in the immediate area. The event kicked off with a motorcycle tour led by company owner Bob Lee and friends. Many owners hauled along their motorcyles for local transportation when the rig was parked. The opening day tour was a good idea for that owner segment. Each night there was a dinner sponsored by one of the supplier manufacturers involved with Country Coach products. Cooking classes aimed at the mobile lifestyle were also on the schedule.

ROLLING HOMES

It was not all fun and games. Country Coach assembled an array of more than 80 seminars and classes relating to the RV lifestyle. These ranged from hard-core technical to lifestyle to educational/entertainment subjects. For those who weren't quite comfortable with wrangling a huge Class A coach, safe driving seminars, including both classroom and behind-the-wheel time were part of the program. This kind of practical, functional class is well worth the cost of admission at a rally. An RV is made up of an amazing number of components and accessories, and rally organizers usually have manufacturer representatives on hand to meet and greet with the RV buyers. This provides a rare one-on-one opportunity to speak directly with a manufacturer's rep rather than a local dealer, for example. Got a question about your tires? Go see the Goodyear or Michelin guy. Is your engine giving you some performance problems? The Caterpillar, Detroit Diesel or Cummins technicians stand ready to address your concerns. Country Coach is among the small cadre of coach manufacturers who assemble their own chassis in-house. This makes it possible for them to design the chassis to specifically fit what they want in a coach package. At the rally, it meant the owners had the chance to provide direct input on what they'd like to see in a chassis from the standpoints of drivability, maintenance and so on. Naturally, an owner rally is a great opportunity for the hosts to showcase the latest and greatest RV products the company has to offer. Country Coach was no slouch in this department, either, as it had a wide array of shiny new Class A motorhomes available for touring and sale. Judging by the attendee foot traffic, there were plenty of current owners eager to learn about the new products and perhaps upgrade. A first-class factory tour was part of the Country Coach event. This tour included a hosted barbecue dinner at the factory and one-on-one interaction with the



MOTOR MATTERS

ONE OF THE MANY Country Coaches at the owner's rally in Eugene, Ore., top. A display featuring the chassis of a Country Coach, bottom.

people who build the coaches. Many coach owners tour the factory as part of the shopping process before finalizing the vehicle purchase, but the rally made for another opportunity to learn or refresh one's memory on how all those pieces go together. Although the social scene and group functions of an owner rally aren't for everyone, these events provide some unique opportunities for RV-related fun and education. For more information about an owner club, contact the manufacturer of your choice. For more about the Country Coach International club, contact www.countrycoach.com/lifestyle/club/ or phone 800-654-0223.

We hate to get all emotional but this cat is a classic

BY STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

There's a fine line between "dated" and "classic," and personal taste dictates your side of that line. Few among us would call the Porsche 911 or the Jeep Wrangler dated, yet long-deceased design lines established their overall profiles more than 50 years ago.

The current model of the Jaguar XK, the company's two-door sports coupe and convertible, has been around with relatively minor changes since late 1996. And it's around until Jaguar's all-new 2007 model arrives. That new car will actually look quite a bit like the current model, so it's probably safe to say that Jaguar is convinced the XK is sufficiently classic to create something of a rolling trademark. I can't disagree. A few days in a 2006 Jaguar XK8 convertible certainly convinced me that the styling has the sort of impact the company wants and needs. And even with the base engine, the XK convertible is a spirited performer, so you don't expect this 2-ton car to perform racetrack feats. After all, the Chevrolet Corvette convertible weighs almost 800 pounds less, has 110 more horsepower and its starting price is about

\$20,000 cheaper. As with most Jaguars, you have to justify your purchase by emotion, not hard numbers.

That said, the XK's 4.2-liter, 294-horsepower V8, mated to a responsive six-speed automatic transmission, has more than enough acceleration and sounds appropriately enthusiastic when going about its business. If you need more horses, there's the supercharged 400-horsepower XKR, but I don't think it's really any more fun to drive than this XK8. The 19-inch chromed wheels and big tires helped the suspension find a commendable compromise between crisp handling and a smooth ride.

Inside, aside from the car's space-robbing "J-gate" shifter — it takes up way too much room on the center console — Jaguar has refined the interior of the XK gradually and thoughtfully over the years. Seats were covered with some of the softest leather you can imagine, part of a \$3,000 "limited edition" package that also included xenon lamps with automatic leveling, Bluetooth connectivity, gorgeous elm-wood veneer and the aforementioned chromed wheels. Other options: a \$2,400 navigation system, and \$2,200 for "adaptive



THE JAGUAR XK8 is elegant and plenty fast enough to entertain.

cruise control," which locates traffic ahead of you, and raises or lowers your speed to compensate. With shipping, the price was \$83,095.

Jaguar likes to think of the XK as a four-passenger vehicle, but rear-seat legroom is less than marginal. You can actually slide the front seat back far enough to touch

the rear seat; where I like to put the driver's seat, it left just two inches of space for rear legroom. Unless your passengers are munchkins, expect a problem. Trunk space,

though, is adequate for a car such as this.

The Jaguar XK8 is elegant and plenty fast enough to entertain. Is it a classic? Yes, I suppose it is.

A museum sheds light on a hard-driving star

BY JERRY GARRETT
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Steve McQueen, the actor, race-car driver and discerning collector, having what many of his peers would consider a career year, appearing on television; in books, theaters and music videos; and in several forms of advertising. Not bad for someone who has been dead for 25 years.

McQueen, who was 50 when he died of lung cancer in 1980, recently seemed to come back to life, appearing in computer-generated action sequences for "The Legend of Zorro," the advertising campaign that introduced the 2005 Ford Mustang. In a scene reminiscent of the 1968 movie "Le Mans," a digital Steve McQueen emerges from a cloud of smoke to slip behind the wheel of a new Mustang, which he pushes to its limits on a racetrack carved through the rows.

McQueen's relationship to the Mustang was forged in "Bullitt," the 1968 crime thriller best remembered for a heroic 9-minute, second-chase scene in which McQueen and villains in a Dodge

Charger take turns chasing each other through the streets of San Francisco.

The McQueen persona is appearing not only in television commercials, but in cultural attractions, too. An exhibit at the Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles, "Steve McQueen: The Legend and the Cars," attempts to connect many of the vehicles from his screen performances with those that served his personal passion for speed. The show, which opened over the weekend, runs through Jan. 22.

"On the sad anniversary of his death 25 years ago," said Leslie M. Kendall, the show's curator, "we thought it appropriate to celebrate his life and achievements and the way he inspired so many other people."

The exhibit features dozens of cars, motorcycles and mementos from McQueen's cinematic and racing careers. Included is a 1956 Jaguar XK-SS roadster that was perhaps the personal favorite among his collection of vehicles.

"It was essentially a grand prix car, detuned for the street," Kendall

said. "It really does speak to his personality. He saw it being driven around Hollywood and prevailed upon the owner to sell it to him."

"People would hear him coming down the Hollywood Hills in it; he almost lost his license speeding in it, numerous times. At one time, he sold it. But he was so nostalgic for it, he bought it back and kept it until his death."

In 1984, McQueen's heirs, his son, Chad, and daughter, Terry, auctioned more than 650 items, including such signature vehicles as a Porsche used in the 1971 racing docudrama "Le Mans." Chad McQueen, who has tried to follow in his dad's footsteps as an actor and racer, helped find many of the owners and encouraged them to put their vehicles on display.

The exhibit does not include the Mustang that McQueen drove in "Bullitt." The film used two modified Mustangs — both of which have mysteriously disappeared.

"An intermediary came to me a few years ago and said, 'There's a guy in Kansas or Pennsylvania or someplace who has it,'" Chad McQueen said. "I contacted the guy,

but I've never been allowed to see the car. I've seen some pictures, but nothing with a serial number on it or anything."

"But he says it's not for sale," Kendall, the curator, said, "if that car ever came up for auction, I'm sure it would set a record for vehicles of its type."

The second Mustang? According to Chad McQueen, someone in the secretarial pool at the movie studio ended up with it. But that car had only a 289-cubic-inch V8 engine; the Mustang that was mainly used in the filming was equipped with a powerful 390 V8.

For the exhibit, a Mustang clone will have to do. Another replica built for the show is a recreation of the Triumph motorcycle that McQueen jumped over a low fence near the end of "The Great Escape," the 1963 prison-camp drama. His stunt double was his good friend Bud Ekins, a motorcycle racer; McQueen was a better rider and driver than any other stuntman.

"Mr. McQueen had a clause in all his movie contracts that he got to keep any vehicles that were used in his films," Kendall explained.

"Still, he retained few of them. And of those that he did keep, many were auctioned off after his death."

One piece of history that is in the show: the Porsche 908 in which McQueen — he was a skilled competitor in cars and on motorcycles — finished second to Mario Andretti at the 1970 Sebring 12-hour endurance race. To those who followed McQueen's racing, the competition successes added depth to the line in "Le Mans" spoken by his character stating that racing is life and, "Anything that happens before or after is just waiting."

McQueen's car collection reflected his broad range of interests, an array of high-performance vehicles that included a Mini Cooper, a Cooper Formula Junior, a Porsche 356, a Ferrari 250 GT Lusso Berlinetta, a Shelby Cobra and an early Henderson motorcycle. He also collected oddballs like an army half-track (an armored truck with tracks in the rear and wheels in the front); a Land Rover outfitted for military duty; desert-racing buggies; and a variety of off-road bikes.

"Dad had good taste," his son noted.

Chad McQueen is hard-pressed to say whether his father's first love was horsepower or Hollywood.

"After 'Le Mans' he never sat in another race car," Chad McQueen said. "That was it. At a certain point he never got on a dirt bike again. Then, toward the end, he could care less about working in films. So I don't know. He was a complex person."

Though it has been decades since his last film role, McQueen's image retains its drawing power. His face can be seen in advertisements for expensive wristwatches. The singer Sheryl Crow produced a big hit, and accompanying music video, with her rendition of "Steve McQueen," an homage of sorts to the lead-footed iconoclast.

Like Steve McQueen
All I need's a fast machine
And I'm gonna make it all right
Like Steve McQueen

Asked to explain the lasting appeal of all things McQueen — not only to people of past generations, but to younger ones as well — Chad McQueen said, "Beats me."

The son, for whom managing his father's estate and image is almost a full-time job, made no pretense that he has an answer. "If you figure it out," he said, "let me know."

Testing Chevy's new HHR

BY MATT NAUMAN
KNIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

SAN JOSE — Yes, Chevy's new HHR does resemble Chrysler's PT Cruiser.

But if imitation is flattery, then I'd welcome more of it.

There's something old-fashioned and appealing about this new car that's really a wagon (although Chevy says it's a truck). But, to me, it's rather hard to define. I see the Beetle in the New Beetle, the old Mustang in the new Mustang, the old Mini in the new Mini Cooper.

But the HHR doesn't prompt any of those comparisons. Chevrolet says the inspiration for the HHR was its '49 Suburban. I can sort of see it in the small windows and its big, bright grille. But only sort of. The automaker also credits its own '05 SSR, a high-performance roadster/truck, for some design influence, and I can see a little of that in the HHR's front end. But only a little.

I think most buyers will see the HHR for what it is: an affordable small car that's decidedly different. It's not supposed to be hip, like a Scion xB, or particularly strange, like Honda's Element. It is, rather, purposefully evocative of an era when cars and trucks had more curves than angles, more attitude than aerodynamics. To me, the HHR is a real winner. The worst thing I can say about the new HHR is that it shares something with the original Cruiser: It's unpowered. Its 2.4-liter four-cylinder is rated at 172 horsepower. That's a lot, but nothing more. It's a four-cylinder engine, and one that struggles as you climb into the Santa Cruz Mountains or need to merge onto a highway in quick order.

For most buyers, this engine will do fine. And they'll like its 30 mpg highway driving on the highway. With prices at \$3 a gallon or more, I think this number will become some-

thing of a standard for car shoppers. City mileage is 21 or 22 mpg, depending on the model and the transmission choice (five-speed manual or four-speed automatic).

A week behind the wheel of a sunburst orange metallic HHR revealed that folks know it's something different, and they appreciate it. Fellow drivers slowed to study the car, then offered upraised thumbs. In parking lots, people came up and did quick inspections.

Most liked what they saw, and were surprised at a price range of \$15,990 to \$18,920 across three models. Our tester had a long list of options, but felt extremely well-equipped (with one or two exceptions) at \$22,625.

Despite its SUV-like silhouette, the HHR is really a car. It's a new skin on the platform of the Chevy Cobalt, a new small car that went on sale as a 2005 model. That means it's a front-wheel-drive machine. There's no all-wheel-drive option here.

But, unlike the Cobalt, which is a huge step up from the Cavalier it replaces, but still not my favorite small-car choice, the HHR is neat and innovative.

Let's start with the back. The rear cargo area is full of useful ideas. It includes a cargo shelf that can be mounted about a foot off the floor to provide extra shelf space. The shelf can be set at a 45-degree angle to allow quick access to what's below. Below that floor is a nice-size cargo bin (2.8 cubic feet) that is perfect for hiding items or storing wet clothes. There are two more tiny bins between the back seat and the rear cargo bins.

The rear seats split and fold flat. The front passenger seat also folds, which means the HHR can carry an 8-foot-long object, like a ladder or a kayak.

The second-row seats are sur-



THE 2006 CHEVY HHR is an affordable small car that's decidedly different.

prisingly spacious, but better suited for two adults than three. Up front, you'll find an above-dash storage bin.

The interior suffers from a heavy reliance on plastic with few bright bits to break up the monotony. But I liked the round air vents and big radio and climate-control buttons. The location of the hand brake interfered with access to the cup holders.

It's on the outside where the HHR stands out. The large, wrap-around grille features a bright old

Chevy bow-tie badge. It accents a distinctive, nostalgic hood. Chrome mirrors and door handles continue the theme, and I like the optional 17-inch wheels.

In back, stacked dual tail lights provide a bit of visual excitement.

The HHR, built in Mexico, is so new that neither quality nor safety ratings are available on it yet. The car comes with dual front air bags and anti-lock brakes. Front and rear side-curtain air bags are an option, but, strangely and wrongly,

General Motors' stability system isn't offered here.

GM suggests that shoppers will consider the HHR against other uniquely shaped vehicles such as the PT Cruiser (which gets substantial interior upgrades for 2006) and Scion xB, as well as against small SUVs such as the Ford Escape, Jeep Liberty and Honda CRV.

I'm not a huge fan of the HHR name — it stands for heritage high roof, Chevy says — and the trim-level packages (LS, 1LT and 2LT) add to

the alphanumeric muck.

I drove the HHR 2LT, the top model. The ride was comfortable, and so were the seats. I appreciate all the storage spaces. We took it to the beach one Sunday afternoon, and it was even easy to vacuum out the sand the next morning.

As the sun was setting over Half Moon Bay, the reflection on the HHR seemed a good omen for this new Chevy. And I noticed there was no PT Cruiser parked nearby to steal the spotlight.

Replacing brakes: A matter of safety, performance and style

NUC

Do your brakes meet your vehicle's needs?

Whether you are concerned with safety, wear or overall performance, many experts recommend talking to a certified technician about replacement options that not

only fit your vehicle, but also your driving style.

"There are various choices of brake pads for different vehicle makes and driving applications," said Steve Branigan, product manager at Honeywell Friction Materials, a global supplier of Bendix brake products.

"Consumers need to be aware of the different options available."

Bendix has been at the forefront of the brake industry, having supplied the first four-wheel disc brakes for a U.S. production car in 1962 and introducing Anti-Lock Brakes in 1971.

Drivers should look for quality

brake products from trusted brands to ensure they get the necessary safety, performance and durability requirements their vehicles need. Premium brake products provide better performance, longer wear and meet or exceed original equipment standards.

When taking your vehicle in for brake repair, communicate your preferences to the technician and be sure to explain the type of driving you do most N highway or in-city, for instance. Bendix CT-3 brake pads, for example, offer superior stopping power, which is necessary for bumper-to-bumper traffic. These brakes also are suitable for vehicles that carry light loads or have custom

wheels. Bendix TitaniumMetallic II brake pads, on the other hand, are ideal for cars that carry heavy loads, while Bendix Fleet MetLok brakes are best for cars that require severe-duty braking, such as police cars, ambulances, taxis and tow trucks.

For more information visit www.bendixbrakes.com.

Scooter sales pick up with rise in gas prices

BY MARIA M. PEROTIN
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

FORT WORTH, Texas — Fed up with the \$60 price of filling his pickup truck's gas tank, Dan Fuller wanted a cheaper alternative.

So much cheaper that he gave up four wheels recently in favor of a zippy, fuel-efficient motor scooter. Fuller and his wife, Lynn, spent about \$2,800 on a Vespa ET2 scooter, which notched about 80 miles to the gallon during a week-end of shopping and visiting relatives.

By the time the pair pulled up to a gas pump for the first time, Fuller paid a whopping \$1.28 to top off the Vespa's tank.

"It was kind of funny pulling out the debit card for that," he said.

The Fort Worth couple's switch reflects a substantial increase in scooter sales in the area as gas prices have climbed in recent months, according to local sellers. At University Scooters of Dallas,

which sold Fuller his scooter, sales are up 400 percent over last year, owner Randy Campbell said in late August. And mid-August was a record-breaker for the 2-year-old shop.

"A year ago, I bet you one in 10 people asked maybe what kind of gas mileage it got. They wanted to know what colors you had and how fast it would go," Campbell said. "Now, everybody — the first question they have is: What kind of gas mileage does it get?"

Campbell's scooters, from four different manufacturers, get 60 to 100 miles per gallon and reach top speeds of 40 to 95 miles per hour, depending on the model, he said.

Mike Strausser, sales manager at Honda Kawasaki West in Fort Worth, has seen a similar shift among customers in recent weeks.

Strausser said he usually keeps about 20 scooters in stock, in addition to his dealership's inventory of motorcycles. But the scooters

have been so popular that he's running out.

"I'm going to bring some more of them in, because probably some people are going to buy them," he said. "It's all about gasoline. It's all about mileage."

The focus on fuel is so great that Strausser's warning to one customer, that her plan to replace a truck with a scooter would expose her to rain and cold during her daily commute, didn't faze her.

"She said, 'I have a jacket, I have a raincoat,'" he said. "People start making different sacrifices."

Motorcycle buyers have become more fuel-conscious, too, he said, and many shoppers are looking for any transportation option that will allow them to park their gas-guzzling vehicles.

The conversation has changed to nothing but fuel in the whole industry in the last four to six weeks," Strausser said. <

That's been sparked by a dramatic rise in gasoline prices.

The change appears to be steering more middle-income buyers and students toward scooters. In addition to the fun-seekers who

used to be the most common buyers, Campbell said.

"I hope it lasts," he said. "I just hired a new employee this morning. I need more staffing just because of how busy it is."

In fact, sales are so brisk that Campbell is looking at properties to add a Fort Worth location soon.

"We've delivered quite a few bikes to Arlington and Fort Worth this month (August)," he said. "It's not just an inner-city thing either."

Fuller, a student at Texas Christian University, said his Vespa is ideal for the short drive to classes and makes parking on campus easier, too. He and his wife, a teacher, plan to leave their pickup under the carport most weekdays while they take turns using the scooter.

"I think we'll end up maybe getting another one," he said. "I think we're going to save a lot."

Craig McDonald of Dallas, who also bought a Vespa from University Scooters in August, said it lets him escape the cost of fueling his LandRover SUV that gets just 15 miles per gallon.

"I drive it to and from work and then any errands that we have to run," McDonald said. "It's so nice not to have to fire up the SUV that just drinks the gasoline."

McDonald, who works about six miles from his home and sells digital photo equipment, said the scooter makes for an easy commute.

"Besides, they're a blast to drive," he said.



RON T. ENNIS/FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Dan and Lynn Fuller (from left) ride their new Vespa scooter near their south Fort Worth, Texas, home.



RON T. ENNIS/FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

DAN AND LYNN FULLER'S Vespa scooter sits at their south Fort Worth, Texas, home on Tuesday, August 23, 2005. Dan said he plans to take the scooter to class at TCU to defray fuel costs. He said the scooter averages 80 miles per gallon.

JIM'S DRIVEWAY

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Jim's Driveway is capsules of Jim Mateja's auto reviews.

2006

BMW 325i

Base price: \$30,300; Engine: 3-liter, 215-horsepower 6-cylinder. Fuel economy: 21 m.p.g. city/29 highway.

Lots of little goodies you don't see, but appreciate, such as a dynamic stability control system with brake drying to keep water off the binders, and brakes that detect a panic stop and move the pads closer to the discs to reduce stopping time. Lots of upgrades, such as styling remake, larger dimensions, more spirited 6-cylinder, 6-speed automatic, push-button start/stop, run-flat radials, front/rear side-curtain air bags and climate-controlled center console. Options include active cruise control to keep you from getting too close to vehicle ahead.

Cadillac DTS Premium

Base price: \$49,695; Engine: 3.6-liter, 291-horsepower V8. Fuel economy: 17 m.p.g. city/24 highway.

Next generation DeVille minus the name. Last Cadillac sedan to undergo a remake and only one to retain front-wheel-drive. Fashionable redesign sharing the dramatic grille styling borrowed from the CTS/Escalade. Biggest change — \$5,000 cut in price with more equipment added, such as remote engine start, side-curtain air bags, heated wiper fluid, headlamps that automatically dim when car approaches at night and dual-depth air bag that regulates the size of the bag based on severity of impact and whether occupant belted or not. Excellent ride and handling. Cozy cabin, sufficiently potent V8. The total package.

Chevrolet HHR LT1

Base price: \$16,425; Engine: 2.4-liter, 172-horsepower 4-cylinder. Fuel economy: 23 m.p.g. city/30 highway.

Chevy rival to PT Cruiser patterned after '49 Suburban that's 8 inches longer and 2 inches wider than a PT. Nose carries the same grille style as the SSR. Comfy cabin with ample stretch room. Nice touches include a covered storage bin in the top of the dash, storage hold parcel shelf, storage bins built into cargo floor and unusual quiet for a small vehicle. Good pep and mileage from 2.4-liter. Automatic a \$1,000 option that comes with remote engine start. Pleasantly agile performer with lots of standard equipment, from air conditioning to power windows, mirrors and locks. Side-curtain air bags optional. Under \$18,000 for base model, under \$20,000 for top-of-the-line.

Chevrolet Impala LT

Base price: \$21,880; Engine:

3.5-liter, 211-horsepower V6.

Fuel economy: 21 m.p.g. city/31 highway.

Best-selling General Motors sedan gets a major redesign with no more Cheerio taillamps. New standard equipment includes eight-way power driver's seat and side-curtain air bags front and rear yet \$1,100 lower price. "Quiet tuning" isolates road noise filtering into cabin. Trio of new engines with 5.3-liter, 303-horsepower V8 in SS. Impressive ride, but have to get SS for optimum handling. ABS an option. Novelty item: flip-and-fold rear seat cushions that expose a stowage compartment underneath. Neat item: Remote engine start. Grip: Stiff seats. And why six different models.

Dodge Charger R/T

Base price: \$29,320; Engine: 5.7-liter, 340-horsepower, Hemi V8. Fuel economy: 17 m.p.g. city/25 highway.

Yep, this thing's got a Hemi. Return of muscle car era name on a 4-door sedan with automatic. Still, the Hemi is sweet, but check out the performance package at \$1,600 because it adds a suspension tuned for pinpoint handling whereas the base model comes with a touring suspension for softer ride. And the Hemi adds 10 h.p. with that package. Wait until fall and you can get a 425-horsepower Hemi and hood scoops in the SRT8 edition or the 5.7-liter engine in a special Daytona decor model with the performance package plus choice of orange or yellow exterior, black hood and deck-lid spoiler.

Honda Ridgeline RTL

Base price: \$31,490; Engine: 3.5-liter, 255-horsepower V6. Fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/21 highway.

Its first pickup for the U.S., a midsize truck derived from the Acura MD-X SUV platform. Loaded with neat features, such as a lockable trunk under the bed big enough to hold three sets of golf clubs; a tailgate that swings open or folds down; a bed wide enough to hold 4x8 sheets of plywood flat; a short 5-foot bed for easier parking/garaging still holds dirt or mountain bikes or ATVs; and a second-row seat bottom cushion that lifts and locks out of the way to expand cargo capacity. Also, on-demand AWD, standard stability control, side-curtain air bags and a powerful V6.

Hummer H3

Base price: \$28,935; Engine: 3.5-liter, 220-horsepower 5-cylinder. Fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/19 highway.

At last a smaller, higher-mileage, lower-cost member of the family to keep tree-huggers from getting their shorts in a knot. Smaller than its giant stablemates, but still capable of fording a 24-

inch deep stream or climbing 16-inch rocks while making its way up a 60-degree grade. More agile than bigger members of the family, but large roof pillars block side vision and make backing out of the parking space an adventure. Only family member to boast 20 m.p.g. mileage—with manual. Derived from the midsize Chevy Colorado pickup.

Hyundai Sonata LX

Base price: \$22,895; Engine: 3.3-liter, 235-horsepower V6. Fuel economy: 20 m.p.g. city/30 highway.

Redesigned and larger sedan for 2006. For the first time a South Korean car built in the U.S. — and like Japanese, in a non-union plant. Boasts most of the same features as a Camry or Accord for \$2,000 to \$4,000 less. Roomier cabin, more spirited V6 and respectable mileage. Pleasant surprise is that electronic stability control with traction control and four-wheel ABS are standard in such a low priced sedan to prevent wheels from slip-sliding away.

Infiniti M45 Sport

Base price: \$49,550; Engine: 4.5-liter, 335-horsepower, 32-valve V8. Fuel economy: 17 m.p.g. city/23 highway.

Back after a year's absence. With its sophisticated computers and network of magic sensors you'd expect to find this vehicle sold in an electronics store. The new for '06 update features push-button start, stability control to keep from slipping, lane departure warning to keep wandering, intelligent cruise control to keep you at a distance from the car ahead and a rearview camera to see what lurks behind. Best of all, climate controlled seats that not only heat, but cool you. So much high tech your heart may pound, but your head will spin and your wallet will evaporate. AWD available, but only in V6 model.

Lexus GS300 AWD

Base price: \$44,850; Engine: 3-liter, 245-horsepower, 24-valve V6. Fuel economy: 21 m.p.g. city/27 highway.

All new with coupe styling on a sedan filled with techno gadgets. Little larger and less snug. New V6 is more lively than old inline 6. AWD offered for first time but only on V6. Stability control that gets you back in control if you start to slip is standard in V6, but upgraded to a system that keeps you in control if sensing a slip on V8. Goodies: push-button start, ventilated cooling seats, headlights that move in direction of turn, power sunshade, rearview camera and collision-sensing system. All are options that quickly run up the sticker price.

Lexus RX400h

Base price: \$48,535; Engine: 3.3-liter, 208-horsepower V6 and

68-horsepower, 650-volt electric motor.

Fuel economy: 31 m.p.g. city/27 highway.

Fleet-of-foot SUV with ample power from gas and electric combined. Batteries start the vehicle, and assist the gas engine when added power is needed to pass, merge or climb. Mileage excellent. Other than hybrid power, the SUV is noteworthy for standard Vehicle Dynamic Integrated Management (VDIM), a stability control system that anticipates slippage and corrects before it happens. Hefty price premium of about \$5,000 for hybrid power. Limited availability of about 28,000 units.

Lincoln LT AWD

Base price: \$42,700; Engine: 5.4-liter, 300-horsepower V8. Fuel economy: 14 m.p.g. city/18 highway.

Not a Blackwood, its first attempt at a luxury pickup. This machine offers 2WD and AWD and an open bed—plus chrome and ebony bling. Can hold anything a full-size pickup can, but most won't want to get it dirty—or take it off-road. Short box for easier parking and garaging. Get the \$250 running boards to easy cabin entry. V8 mileage rating makes gas a luxury. First 20,000 buyers get a scale model.

Mercedes-Benz CLS500

Base price: \$64,900; Engine: 5-liter, 302-horsepower 24-valve V8. Fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/22 highway.

A four-door sedan called a coupe because of its slanted roof line, the same look coming from the new S-Class next spring. The roofline, however, plays havoc with the melons of anyone riding in the back seat. The 5-liter, teamed with a new 7-speed automatic, does a good job of propelling the car, but you pay the price in mileage with a \$1,300 guzzler tax. AMG version of this car has a more potent 5.5-liter — and a \$1,700 guzzler tax. Good mobility for a heavyweight and smooth ride from computer controlled air suspension. Electronic stability control standard. Neat touch: climate control for each seat.

Mercedes-Benz ML350

Base price: \$39,750; Engine: 3.5-liter, 268-horsepower 24-valve V6. Fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/20 highway.

The big change is that this luxury SUV now is built off a car-like platform shared with the new R-Class sports tourer coming this fall and no longer a body-on-frame truck platform. Better road manners and more user-friendly suspension. Thanks to wheel well and fender bulges it has more rugged looks like an SUV rather than a minivan. Longer and wider for more cabin room and better roadability. Upgrade to more potent, yet higher mileage V6, though mileage still dis-

mal. One-touch shift lever stalk on the column takes getting used to. Decent initial price, but lots of high-cost options.

Mercury Milan V6 Premier

Base price: \$22,845; Engine: 3-liter, 210-horsepower V6. Fuel economy: 23 m.p.g. city/29 highway.

Another new midsize sedan to replace Sable. Rich, luxurious upscale styling inside and out and a paint finish with luster. Very good cabin as well as trunk room. Suspension tuned to absorb road imperfections so far marks don't feel like logs. Choice of 4-cylinder for mileage, V6 for performance, though high mileage is the primary concern. At 3,200 to 3,300 pounds, you'll feel weight in the wheel, but it's not cumbersome. Still to come, all-wheel-drive '07 and a gas/electric '08.

Pontiac Solstice

Base price: \$19,420; Engine: 2.4-liter, 177-horsepower 4-cylinder. Fuel economy: 20 m.p.g. city/28 highway.

Finally a "gotta have" car from GM. But most dealers don't have one. Expect to wait months for delivery because 13,000 have already been sold sight unseen. Open-top two-seater looks like it costs \$30,000 but can be had well-equipped for under \$22,000. Only 5-speed manual for now, automatic next spring. Great looks and excellent handling. The 4-cylinder has spirit, but a livelier version is in the works—as is an optional removable hardtop. Roomy cabin, but trunk space minuscule. A reminder cars can be fun and not just objects of scorn for consuming \$3-a-gallon-plus energy.

Pontiac Torrent FWD

Base price: \$22,400; Engine: 3.4-liter, 185-horsepower V6. Fuel economy: 19 m.p.g. city/24 highway.

Pontiac calls this its first SUV, meaning Aztek never existed! Derived from Chevy Equinox and offered in front-wheel-drive or all-wheel-drive. Attraction is second-row seat that moves forward or backward 8 inches to improve leg or cargo room. Cargo hold parcel shelf also neat. Anti-lock brakes and traction control standard on FWD model. AWD offers ABS standard. With the 3.4-liter V6 this is more a cute than a brute sport-ute. Mileage bit low. Could use a high performance GXP version. Decent price, but watch out for option load.

Subaru B9 Tribeca AWD

Base price: \$33,895; Engine: 3-liter, 250-horsepower 6-cylinder. Fuel economy: 18 m.p.g. city/23 highway.

Odd name and odd design for new flagship that's largest model in lineup. Added to fleet for those needing more people and cargo

room, with available seating for seven. Derived from Outback platform, but longer, wider and taller. Choice of two, or for first time, three rows of seats. Third row tight, however, and when in use, leaves little cargo room behind it. Third-row entry a squeeze. Nice touches: optional DVD entertainment system, calculator in the nav screen, stability/traction control and full-time AWD standard.

Subaru Forester XT Limited

Base price: \$27,895; Engine: 2.5-liter, 230-horsepower, turbocharged 4-cylinder.

Fuel economy: 21 m.p.g. city/26 highway.

A new front- and rear-end design for '06 plus an upgrade in the 2.5-liter turbo 4-cylinder to 230 horsepower from 210 h.p. to make the compact SUV a spirited performer. Yet mileage is respectable at 26 with automatic, higher than the 19/25 rating with manual transmission. Full-time all-wheel-drive for stable and secure motoring, though it doesn't mean you won't experience body lean in a tight corner. However, couple more inches of cabin width would be appreciated. Neat feature: very large sunroof. But side-curtain air bags not offered.

Toyota Avalon XLS

Base price: \$30,800; Engine: 3.5-liter, 280-horsepower, 24-valve V6. Fuel economy: 22 m.p.g. city/31 highway.

Much larger than the car it replaces with more cabin room, better styling, a V6 that leaps from the light and a suspension tuned for better ride and more agile handling. Back-seat legroom is limo-like, and seat backs recline. Performance-oriented Touring edition added along with more luxurious Limited edition. Stability control, Dynamic Laser cruise control (keeps you at a safe distance from vehicles ahead) and remote start are new options.

Toyota Highlander Hybrid

Base price: \$37,890; Engine: 3.3-liter, 208-horsepower V6 gasoline engine with electric motor for combined 268 horsepower.

Fuel economy: 33 m.p.g. city/28 highway.

The SUV now offers a gas/electric hybrid to conserve fuel and reduce the amount of gunk spit into the atmosphere by starting and getting going on battery power. Yet gas/batteries provide ample power when needed. But be prepared because it takes a few seconds longer to get the electric motor going than it does a gas engine. The reward for your patience is near total silence and a mileage rating you'd expect in a compact car not a midsize SUV. But you pay a \$4,500 premium over regular gas model.

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No early sales! 127 Sanger Peak Way</p> <p>BACKYARD SALE 512 West Madison St. Sat/Sun 10/1-2, 9-5 Boat rack for truck, hardware, reptile cage, tools, toys, clothes, & lots more!</p> <p>FRIENDS OF ANTIOCH Liquor & Wine Sale 501 W. 18th Street 1000's of donations from children to cook books, videos & audio books for \$1 or less</p> <p>Garage Sale 1425 SAN JOSE DRIVE Vallejo Green Sat/Sun, 10am-4pm</p> <p>MOVING SALE 502 Sierra Ln. SATURDAY 8am-3pm Household items, clothing, dishes, toys, etc.</p> <p>Garage Sale Sat Oct. 1, 9-12pm 59 East Lake Dr. (Xm St.) Kids toys, clothing, books, Christmas, home decor items & more!</p> <p>GIANT SALE 3025 ENEA WAY Sat/Sun 10/1-2 New & used items, collectibles, toys, home decor, furniture, tools, misc. & more</p> <p>Garage Sale 2432 Candor Way Fri & Sat 9/30-10/1 Bam to 2pm. No Early Birds. Twin captains bed, dresser, nightstand, dresser, mirror, CD's & adult clothes, maternity clothes, air fryer, etc.</p> <p>MOVING SALE Furniture & lots more SATURDAY 10/1-2 To Preview Furniture Call: 925-756-2573</p> <p>MOVING SALE SAT 10/1-10/2 2660 Shepherd Way Lots of home decor & misc. items.</p> <p>MOVING SALE 129 Campbell Ave. Sat/Sun 10/1-2 Sofa like new, golf clubs, Singer Sewing Machine, etc.</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE 4810 Bell Drive Fri & Sat 8-3pm Furniture, clothing, toys, etc. - Everything from \$1.00!</p> <p>WEDNESDAY BARGAIN SAT 10-2 (No Early Birds) 2225 Allison Dr. 8400 Promenade Way Furniture, home decor, toys, etc.</p> <p>OUR 1st Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale A bargain hunters dream come true! Sat 10/1-9 2024 Macdonald Way Free guide to local sale sites. Free shop - ping bags. Free refreshments. Free raffle dinner for 2!</p> <p>Housing & Real Estate Housing & Real Estate Housing & Real Estate Housing & Real Estate</p>	<p>Berkeley</p> <p>ESTATE SALE Antiques & Collectibles SAT 9/30-10/1 1324 Oxford St. Furniture, quilts, kilts, jewelry, books, toys, dishes, pottery, clock, gramophone, record player, games, tools, toys, etc.</p> <p>ROCK & GARAGE SALE 10-1/2-10/2 10am-5pm 914 Dartmouth Way Tons of quality quality rock, slabs, jade, decorative rock, obelisks, antique, glass, tools, fishing supplies, etc.</p> <p>HOUSEWARE SALE Mt. Diablo Women's Club 1700 Farm Bureau Rd. Fri-Sat 9/30 & 10/1 8am-4pm</p> <p>SAT 10/1-10/2 1608 Yeoman Dr. Kiln, crafts, doll mold, old & new items. If you don't find it, we probably have it.</p> <p>SAT 10/1-9/3 1219 Aspen Dr. Fine jewelry, Xmas, antique quilts, glass, Dierich, use & road, etc.</p> <p>Garage Sale 1025 Amanda Circle Clayton Hill Sat/Sun, 10am-4pm</p> <p>MOVING SALE 502 Sierra Ln. SATURDAY 8am-3pm Household items, clothing, dishes, toys, etc.</p> <p>Garage Sale Sat Oct. 1, 9-12pm 59 East Lake Dr. (Xm St.) Kids toys, clothing, books, Christmas, home decor items & more!</p> <p>Garage Sale Sat Oct. 1, 9-12pm 59 East Lake Dr. (Xm St.) Kids toys, clothing, books, Christmas, home decor items & more!</p> <p>Garage Sale Sat Oct. 1, 9-12pm 59 East Lake Dr. (Xm St.) Kids toys, clothing, books, Christmas, home decor items & more!</p>	<p>Concord</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE SAT 10/1-10/2 10am-5pm 3099 Consuelo Rd Española, N. 6th St Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>ROCK & GARAGE SALE 10-1/2-10/2 10am-5pm 914 Dartmouth Way Tons of quality quality rock, slabs, jade, decorative rock, obelisks, antique, glass, tools, fishing supplies, etc.</p> <p>HOUSEWARE SALE Mt. Diablo Women's Club 1700 Farm Bureau Rd. Fri-Sat 9/30 & 10/1 8am-4pm</p> <p>SAT 10/1-10/2 1608 Yeoman Dr. Kiln, crafts, doll mold, old & new items. 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Sat 10/1-9/3 33 Mission Springs, 179 Ben Lomond & 27 Benny Doane</p> <p>Kensington</p> <p>TOTAL ESTATE LIGHTHOUSE SALE! Sat 10/1-10/2 Kiln, crafts, doll mold, old & new items. If you don't find it, we probably have it.</p> <p>ESTATE SALE EXTENSIVE HOUSEHOLD Fri-Sat 9/30-10/1 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>Lafayette</p> <p>Lafayette Garage Sale Saturday 10/1 9:00-10:00 New & used items, collectibles, toys, home decor, furniture, tools, misc. & more</p> <p>Lafayette Great New twin bed, dresser, nightstand, dresser, mirror, CD's & adult clothes, maternity clothes, air fryer, etc.</p> <p>HUGE YARD SALE SAT 10/1-10/2 234 Superior Dr. Fri 9/30 & Sat 10/1 Lots of everything!</p> <p>LIVERMORE</p> <p>LIVERMORE GARAGE Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>LIVERMORE Three Saturday only 8am to 12pm Furniture, toys, home decor, etc.</p> <p>MOVING SALE 2432 Macdonald Way Sat 10/1-10/2 Furniture, home decor, toys, etc.</p> <p>MOVING SALE 2432 Macdonald Way Sat 10/1-10/2 Furniture, home decor, toys, etc.</p> <p>MOVING SALE 2432 Macdonald Way Sat 10/1-10/2 Furniture, home decor, toys, etc.</p>	<p>Martinez</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE! SAT. 10am-3pm 1445 DEERWOOD SAT 10/1-9/3 418 Dale Rd (off Rolling Hill) New, furniture, home decor, dishes, glassware, toys, etc.</p> <p>YARD SALE 914 BROWN ST Sat & Sun 10/1-2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ESTATE SALE Antiques, Fine Collectibles Sat 10/1-10/2 Santa Lucia Rd No other quality estate sale. High quality items, furniture, paintings, mirrors, etc.</p> <p>MOVING SALE SAT 10/1-9/3 711 Miner Hill (off Highway 101) Boys' clothing, toys, etc.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p>	<p>Oakley</p> <p>OAKLEY Neighborhood Garage Sale Sat 9/30-10/1 Years of Antiques, furniture, clothing, misc. household Woodbury, Woodbury, etc.</p> <p>OAKLEY SAT & Sun HUGE Garage Sale 8am-10am No Early Birds! BIRDS! Tools, collectibles, TV's, kitchen items, etc.</p> <p>SATURDAY 10/1, 1am-3pm Misc. household items, children's toys, clothes & lots of stuff! 61 Delta Rd (Off Hwy. 4)</p> <p>Orinda</p> <p>ESTATE SALE Antiques, Fine Collectibles Sat 10/1-10/2 Santa Lucia Rd No other quality estate sale. High quality items, furniture, paintings, mirrors, etc.</p> <p>MOVING SALE SAT 10/1-9/3 711 Miner Hill (off Highway 101) Boys' clothing, toys, etc.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 10/1-10/2 Hshld items & furn.</p>	<p>Pleasant Hill</p> <p>HUGE MOVING SALE 10/1-2 Hshld items & furn.</p> <p>MOTHER-DEAR SALE Boutique Furniture for Le & Lymph Soc. 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Excellent skills required in strategic planning, project management, leadership, communication, and analysis; a good sense of design also essential.

We offer competitive salaries and a wide range of benefits, including health insurance and profit sharing.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Employment is dependent upon successful completion of pre-employment background inquiry and physical exam that includes a screen for the detection of drugs.

Please send resume with salary requirements and history to:
 Attn: Human Resources, PO Box 86, Fairfield, CA 94533; or e-mail us at jobs@jellybelly.com.
 Primaries only. Only qualified candidates will be contacted to set up an appointment (no phone calls, please).

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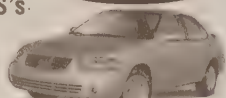
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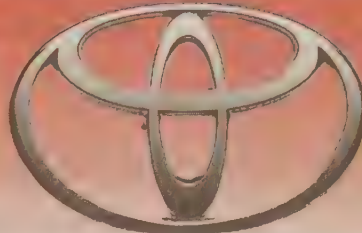
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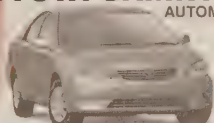


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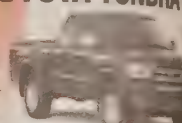
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ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

Friday, September 30, 2005

Look inside for local advertising circulars every Friday

leaf diving

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There is something about a pile of fall leaves that is irresistible: A sunny fall day with just the right chill in the air. You take that long lunch in the park, and there they are. A jumble of red, gold and orange leaves. Calling to you. "Come run through me, toss my golden bounty in the air."

"Dive in and roll around. ... You know you want to."

But you resist the siren song. After all, you're an adult, and leaf diving is for kids, right?

Silly rabbit.

We say the fun of jumping into leaves is for everyone. So allow us to reintroduce the older ones and initiate youngsters to the fine art of leaf diving.

PICKING THE PILE

There are a couple of things to remember when selecting the perfect pile of leaves for diving: depth and density.

Too shallow, and people could get hurt; too deep, and you might never get through them.

Our highly unscientific research reveals that the ideal pile is at least 3 feet tall at the center and twice as wide. Yes, it's a load of leaves, but you only get to do this a couple of times a year, so do it right.

As for density, kick through the leaves a little to loosen the pile. Tightly packed leaves are no good.

Also, take note of where the pile is. Grass is best. If the leaves are anywhere near a street, think twice. Curbs are the hidden dangers of leaf piles (as some of us have found out the hard way — the really hard way). There is nothing like a belly flop onto concrete to make you hate autumn.

Stay away from leaves that look the slightest bit wet, and watch out for sticks. And, most importantly, avoid leaves that are floating in water.

WHAT TO WEAR

Note: Fashion tips depend on crisp temperatures. Adjust accordingly. We're talking about diving into leaves here, not running the Joan Rivers gauntlet at the Oscars, so really, you're free to come as you are.

But in the ideal leaf-diving universe, there are a few things you might want to consider.

First off, **LEAVES CAN SCRATCH.** You'll no doubt come into contact with the occasional branch or twig, so gloves are a good bet, and — especially if you've got a head of hair on ya — a cap.

Also, diving through the air in a barn jacket might seem nice and rustic and Martha Stewart-ish, but think about it: You'll be plucking leaves out of the pockets through March.

The same warning goes for clothes that are too loose — baggy hip-hop jeans could mean days of picking leaves out of your nether regions. Instead, we recommend a cotton turtleneck (impenetrable to leaves) underneath a cozy old wool sweater.

And again, depending on how brisk it is, we recommend long johns underneath a pair of sturdy jeans. Extra padding could be good. You know. Curbs.

STYLE AND TECHNIQUE

You have your pile and your gear, so what's next?

If you are 5, do what comes naturally. If you are several decades older, watch a 5-year-old first.

Leaf diving is about letting go and reveling in nature.

Feeling a little cautious? Start slowly with a solid jump right into the middle — feet or bottom first, your pick. Once you are waist-high in leaves, you'll loosen up.

Wanna dive full force into nature? Try a Nestle plunge and just fall back into a pile of autumn goodness. (But remember depth and density — see "Picking the Pile" — we don't want anybody with a busted noggin.)

Once you've dived into the leaf pile, what then?

Toss a few handfuls of leaves in the air and then make sure to prepare the pile for the next person.

— Holly E. Stepp and Heather Svokos,
Knight Ridder Newspapers

So, leaf diving's not your thing? There are still plenty of ways to make the most of the season.

IN SEARCH OF FALL COLOR

One of the best ways to enjoy fall is to visit an area during its peak color period. Drop in on one of the following Web sites for regular fall color updates.*

U.S. Forest Service

www.fs.fed.us/news/fallcolors/

The Weather Channel

www.weather.com/maps/geography/northeastus/northeastusnormalfallpeaks_large.html

Connecticut

dep.state.ct.us/updates/foilage/

Maine

www.state.me.us/doc/foilage/

Massachusetts

www.massvacation.com/jsp/fall_foliage/welcome.jsp

Missouri

www.conservation.state.mo.us/nathis/seasons/fall/

New Hampshire

www.visitnh.gov/fall-foliage-new-england.html

New York

www.empire.state.ny.us/tourism/foilage/

Ozark Mountains (Arkansas and Missouri)

www.ozarkmtns.com/foilage/

Pennsylvania

www.fallinpa.com/fallinpa/index.jsp

Wisconsin

www.travelwisconsin.com/search/FallColorReport.html

PRESERVING LEAVES

The colors of autumn don't have to disappear with the onset of winter. There are a variety of ways to preserve leaves that can lock in the fall beauty for several weeks or more.

TRADITIONAL WAX PAPER METHOD

■ Place leaves between two layers of wax paper.

■ Cover with an old towel.

■ Press the fabric with a warm iron for about 30 seconds. This should seal the leaf in the wax paper.

■ After, cut the leaves out from the two pressed wax paper sheets. But leave a narrow margin of wax paper around the leaf edge. Children should never preserve leaves with wax paper without parental supervision.

MICROWAVE OVEN METHOD

■ Pick fresh, colorful leaves from trees. Don't use leaves that have fallen already.

■ Place the leaves separately on two paper towel sheets in the microwave oven, and cover them with another sheet of paper towel.

■ Run the oven for 30 to 180 seconds. Drier leaves require less time. Baking leaves in the microwave for more than three minutes could create a fire hazard. Leaves that curl following time in the microwave have not dried enough.

■ Allow leaves to dry for one or two days. Then apply a sealant, such as an acrylic craft spray, to the leaves.

GLYCERIN AND WATER METHOD

■ Submerge leaves in a pan filled with a solution of one part glycerin and two parts water.

■ Let leaves soak in the solution for two to six days. Remove the leaves and wipe off the excess liquid.

— Chuck Myers,
Knight Ridder/Tribune

The fall tradition isn't just for kids



The International Society of Arboriculture says a couple of key factors can determine whether fall foliage colors explode in brilliance or produce a muted palette.

FAVORABLE CONDITIONS

■ Fertile soil enhances the intensity of reds in leaves.

■ The more sunlight a leaf receives, the more likely it is to turn red.

■ Warm sunny days followed by cool nights with temperatures below 45 degrees create the most favorable conditions for strong color.

UNFAVORABLE CONDITIONS

■ Rainy or cloudy days near "peak coloration time" limit photosynthesis and dampen the vividness of autumn color.

■ Freezing temperatures and heavy frost can significantly reduce autumn color intensity by damaging leaves before pigments are fully developed.

SOURCES: DETROIT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY; WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

■ California*

Fall Color in California, www.calphoto.com/fall.htm, has up-to-the-moment reports posted by locals.



Fall home deck-orating: Creating an outdoor space for all seasons

Does the approaching season not only cool the air but also chill your spirits? If the first cold snap sends you indoors to embrace warm blankets, you'll be happy to know your enjoyment of outdoor living spaces doesn't need to succumb to the elements.

A properly designed and well-appointed outdoor living space can become quite a comfortable spot to enjoy the cooler months, and create a focal point outdoors where the family can enjoy quality time together instead of hibernating indoors in front of the television. And with many stylish, durable products on the market

these days to enhance the comfort and convenience of backyard entertaining — the end result is a space that not only meets your needs, but lifts your spirits.

"The outdoor room is definitely becoming more than a seasonal space," says Peter Lang, general manager of the Western Red Cedar Lumber Association. "And just like every other room, homeowners can easily create an enjoyable locale with a few simple additions, some thoughtful planning and a few decorative touches."

Taking the time to incorporate some decorative and functional elements will not only add aesthetic flair,

but also provide that cozy feeling to help extend the decking season. When inserting these elements into your outdoor retreat, be sure to consider the following ideas and tips to properly "deckorate" this season:

Decorative touches

One of the easiest ways to brighten any outdoor living space is with seasonal touches placed throughout. An ideal way to welcome in the colors of fall includes baskets filled with pumpkins, Indian corn, leaves and Russet apples. Remember, borrowing items from nature exudes the rich colors of autumn, provides a warming presence

as the days grow cooler and smartly blends the space with the natural surroundings.

Strategically placed tea lights and enclosed candles are other easy-to-insert decorative ideas. Placing these objects along a hand railing or atop tables adds visual warmth and ambience while providing the flexibility to extend your outdoor gatherings past twilight. And remember to include attractive plaid cushions to furniture and flannel throw blankets for bundling up.

Versatile overhead coverings

Many backyard dwellers are incorporating overhead structures atop outdoor living spaces as well. As temperatures cool, these coverings enable you to enjoy the outdoors while providing protection from chilly winds and moisture. Even better, these protective coverings provide protection during the warmer months as well.

Overhead coverings can be as simple as pergola-style sunshades, or more substantial ceiling structures that help define space as an "outdoor room." Regardless, fencing or walling in one or more sides helps lend the space a sense of privacy.

All (warmed) hands on deck

When the night air turns cool, patio heaters are favored amenities to warm things up. These metal-clad space heaters are an increasingly

popular means to extend the enjoyment of outdoor living, while creating a warm glow for year-around ambience. These cost-effective heat sources radiate heat downward to warm a 12- to 20-foot area, and can be located almost anywhere. Best of all, they're safe, dependable and easy-to-operate.

Swirling with spas

No matter where you live or what the temperature is outside, immersing yourself in a spa provides a relaxing way to get away from it all. There is nothing quite like lying in a bubbling spa, being massaged by gentle jets of water and looking up into a swirl of snowflakes. And these days, an endless combination of spa sizes and features are available to match every lifestyle.

You may consider installing some privacy screens and seating around the spa area as well. Built-in benches offer a place for people to hang out and dress up the entire decking area.

Decorate from the deck up

Speaking of dressing up decking areas, one of the best ways to instantly bring all-natural warmth and beauty to any outdoor living space is by using Western Red Cedar decking. Western Red Cedar adds character, balance and elegance to outdoor spaces — and provides a synchronized blend of all-natural materials that accentuates the natural surroundings.

Not only does Cedar exude a beauty in its natural color and sustainable many homeowners for its natural beauty and mildew.

Western Red Cedar's resistance to rot and decay from compounds that actually act as preservatives — making it a durable and long-lasting material — is one of its best attributes. Cedar's natural oils and its tight grain structure make it the all-natural decking product of choice for a Real Cedar deck.

"Incorporating Cedar decking into your outdoor space makes a seamless transition between the indoors and outdoors," adds Lang. "It's an impression it is an outdoor room inside and out, and it segues between spaces guests to move from indoors and outdoors."

For more information on your outdoor living space, go to www.westernredcedar.com 778-9096.

— Courtney



A PROPERLY DESIGNED and well-appointed outdoor living space can become quite a comfortable spot to enjoy the cooler months.



Texture and innovative materials add pizzazz to plain walls

Move over white walls. Just take a look at the latest issue of Interior Design—the new trend in home design is a finished look achieved by texture and color. Whether it's custom painting in tinted and combed plaster finishes or innovative, natural wallcoverings like mother of pearl tiles, paper backed silk panels, bamboo or leather, ordinary walls are being turned into extraordinary ones with lasting impressions.

"Textured paint finishes and wall coverings give rooms a rich, sophisticated look," says New York based interior painter Dean Penna, who for nearly 15 years has been creating the ultimate in wall finishes for high end residential and commercial interiors.

Penna, who collaborates with an array of leading interior designers and architects, including Samuel Botero and Jeffrey Bilhuber, says he's seeing a lot of specialized techniques such as Venetian, combed and tinted plaster finishes and leather and suede wall installations. He says the trend is a natural progression in design.

"Just as music or fashion evolves, so do techniques," he says. "More and more designers are starting to push the envelope when it comes to walls. People want something new and creative to set their home apart from the rest."

Pushing the envelope is nothing new to Chicago-based Maya Romanoff Corporation, which for the past 35 years has been the leading manufacturer of innovative wall coverings and surface materials. Its best

selling Beadazzled flexible glass bead wallcovering has taken the interior furnishings world by storm and has earned a prestigious, permanent place in the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum. The product can also be seen in the Bellagio Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas and in the home of comedian Jimmy Kimmel.

Renowned for his unique use of texture and eco-friendly materials such as vinyl, wood, mica, grass, and bamboo, founder and CEO, Maya Romanoff has changed the way people look at walls.

"We see each hand-made product as a piece of art rather than a mere wallcovering," he says. "To me, textures fit better in the modern world than a framed picture on a wall."

This past spring, Romanoff introduced shimmering Mother of Pearl tiles made of genuine shell and flexible for easy installation. He also added five new versions of Beadazzled: Beadazzled Geode, made of varying size beads and meant to recreate the look of quartz; Beadazzled Baubles, which includes beads twice the size of the original Beadazzled; Beadazzled Tiles, die cut tiles available in both custom and standard colors; Beadazzled in Relief, sophisticated artistic renderings created with varying low and high beads and Beadazzled Murals, one of a kind artwork created and

then "Beadazzled."

Penna, who regularly installs the most complicated wallcoverings, says textured paint finishes and wallcoverings can fit into even the most conservative of homes.

"If you're wary about trying something unconventional on your walls, just try one room first and make sure you hire a professional," he says. "These wall techniques are very difficult and require lots of prep work. It's important to find someone who has a good reputation and to check their references."



Textured paint finishes and wall coverings give rooms a rich, sophisticated look.

Entertain easily at brunch

Even if you've got a hectic end-of-the-year schedule, you can gather family and friends for a joyous holiday celebration. Entertaining can be relatively carefree and inexpensive if you plan a casual brunch.

Brunch is generally served between the traditional hours for breakfast and lunch, a convenient time that leaves the evening free for you and your guests. Easy on the cook, a brunch menu usually stars comforting and simple-to-prepare dishes, most often based on nature's own convenience food, eggs.

For brunch, you can cook up versatile eggs to please almost anyone. Omelets are a popular brunch choice. You can flavor your omelets simply with herbs and cheese or dress them up with a fancier filling, such as garlic-laced creamed shrimp.

Another option is scrambled eggs, the top egg choice across America. To suit everyone, offer plain scrambled eggs with an assortment of different toppings from which your guests can pick and choose their favorites.

Consider veggies such as sautéed mushrooms, onions and bell peppers; two or three cheeses, perhaps brie or feta, cottage or ricotta, mozzarella, Swiss or Cheddar; and, for a flavorful zip, chopped or minced herbs, such as chives or dill, an herb blend from curry powder to Italian seasoning, or maybe a prepared sauce or two, like pesto or salsa.

For a more unusual treat, serve Baked Eggs in Bread Bowls. With this recipe, simple ingredients that you're likely to have on hand combine into handy, but elegant, individual servings.

Preparation is an uncomplicated matter of stirring together the flavoring ingredients, spooning the veggie mixture into hollowed-out rolls, slipping eggs into each nest and baking. While the eggs are in the oven, set the table and cut up fresh fruit for a colorful compote and toss a crisp green salad. Because bread and carrots are already in the egg dish, that's all you need to round out the meal.

Whether you serve Baked Eggs in Bread Bowls or use the step-by-step directions for omelets or scrambled eggs at www.aeb.org, eggs can help you create an easy and economical, but exceptional, holiday brunch for the special people in your life.

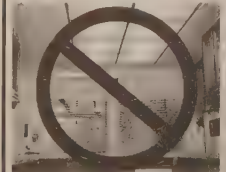
BAKED EGGS IN BREAD BOWLS

6 Kaiser or round rolls (about 4-

inch diameter), cut
3 tablespoons mayonnaise
2 cups shredded cheddar
8 ounces
6 eggs
6 tablespoons milk
Shredded cheddar
mozzarella cheese
Fresh dill sprigs
Slice tops off rolls
inch from top. Roll out
insides of rolls, leaving about 1/2 inch around. Save crumbs.

Set rolls aside. In medium bowl, mix mustard and mayonnaise. Blend in milk. Coat rolls with mixture. Bake in oven until whites are firm and yolks begin to set. Not hard, about 30 minutes. Garnish with dill. Makes 6 servings.

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Flowers add inspiration for fall home decorating

ARA
Fall is a time of year when color is all around us. Leaves are turning yellow, orange, red and crimson; grass is fading from brilliant green to varying shades of yellow, tan and brown; and bright orange pumpkins and cornucopias abound. Let nature's palate serve as inspiration for your fall home decorating by bringing a taste of the outdoors in.

You don't need to change your color or bring in new furniture to update the look in your home this year. There are so many beautiful things you can do with natural materials like grasses, leaves, twigs and flowers," says Jill Slater, a floral designer from San Francisco who serves as the spokesperson for the Flower Promotion Organization. "You can make a centerpiece for a table, a natural wreath for the doors and walls or put seasonal grasses and flowers in vases scattered around the house."

Slater has been preparing flower arrangements for years, but says she doesn't have to be an expert to create a masterpiece. Here are some fall-themed projects you may want to try:

Spiral bouquet

It's easy to look like a pro and impress guests this season with this freestanding chrysanthemum bouquet that inspires the senses and delights the eye.

Materials: 10 to 15 stems of red and white chrysanthemums (if a larger bouquet is desired, use more flowers or add some greenery). A two-foot length of raffia, approximately two feet in length; one wide complimentary colored ribbon, approximately two inches in length.

Directions:
Step 1: Strip and clean the leaves from the chrysanthemums, removing those that will fall below the thumb making the bouquet.

Step 2: Gather three to five stems of mums in your hand. (If you are right handed hold the flowers in your left hand and vice-versa.) Hold them vertically between your thumb, index finger and third finger. The way you hold the flower stem, the larger and larger in circumference the spiral bouquet will be.

Step 3: Begin the spiral placement by placing additional flowers at a 45-degree angle against the center of the bouquet. Do not lay stems on top of each other but instead, lay them next to each other. After three to five stems have been added in this fashion, twist the bouquet (either clockwise or counter clockwise, depending on what feels comfortable in your hand). Add additional flowers using this same method. You will be creating a spiral of flowers. Keep all the buds/blossoms of the mums at the same height. If desired add foliage.

Step 4: Bind the flowers by wrapping the florist string or raffia several times around the flower stems at the point you held the flowers. Leave several inches of raffia to tie off the bouquet. Bring the thread through the center of the flowers and pull the thread taut. Cut the thread and tie it to the raffia end.

Step 5: Cut the ends of the raffia

flower stems very straight and finish the bouquet off with a complementary ribbon if desired.

Step 6: To make the bouquet literally stand on end, by itself, gently spread the stems and if necessary, trim the center stems slightly shorter than the rest of the bouquet.

For people who like to entertain, another project Slater recommends for fall is to make seasonal place cards that can be set on the table for party guests. "Miniature pumpkin vases inscribed with your guests' names look perky when placed on the dining table as seating place cards. These miniature personalized vases will make a big statement and a lasting impression," says Slater. They are also a festive and seasonal take-home gift for each partygoer.

Pumpkin place cards

Materials: (for one miniature pumpkin place card) 1 miniature pumpkin, a paring knife, a teaspoon, a permanent marker, one-eighth brick of floral foam, floral clippers, 2 to 3 stems of chrysanthemums.

Directions:
Step 1: Soak the floral foam in water treated with floral preservative/food for at least 30 minutes.

Step 2: Cut a hole in the top of the pumpkin and then scoop out as much pulp and seeds as possible.

Step 3: With the permanent marker, inscribe the guests' names on the pumpkins.

Step 4: Next, cut the floral foam to fit inside the miniature pumpkin.

Step 5: Now cut the individual flowers off each chrysanthemum, leaving each stem as long as possible.

Step 6: Finally, cut each flower to approximately 4 to 5 inches in length and insert them into the floral foam. A round shape is the goal.

Helmet hues

And if the party you're hosting will take place during a football game, your fans are sure to appreciate a flower arrangement made inside one of their team's helmets. Slater calls this creation "Helmet Hues."

Materials: 1 football helmet, 1 bowl to fit inside the helmet, 1 brick of floral foam, 1 dozen fresh-cut flowers in your teams' colors, 6 stems of leather fern and 6 stems of lemon leaf, floral preservative, floral clippers and knife, teacup saucer.

Directions:
Step 1: Soak the floral foam in water that has been treated with floral preservative for at least 30 minutes.

Step 2: Cut the floral foam to fit inside the bowl. Now set the bowl into the helmet.

Step 3: The trick to arranging



LET NATURE'S PALATE serve as an inspiration for your fall home decorating.

ARA CONTENT

flowers in a round container is to think of the face of a clock. Start with the greenery. The first step is to put the hour and minute hands in the center of your imaginary clock, which is really the center of the round container. All the greens should be cut to approximately five-inches in length.

Step 4: Next, arrange additional greenery at the quarter hours and then fill in all the hours of the imaginary clock with more greenery. All

the flowers should be cut to approximately 5 to 6 inches in length.

Step 5: The last step is to add the flowers. This is simple; follow the same procedure with the flowers as you did with the greenery. All

the flowers should be cut to approximately 5 to 6 inches in length.

Step 6: Set the helmet full of flowers on a teacup saucer to stabilize it.

For more design ideas, or to order a free brochure about decorating with flowers, log on to www.flowerpossibilities.com.

— Courtesy of ARA Content

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Design tips for a warm and welcoming entry to your home

Ever wonder what's the secret to a warm, welcoming entry way? Wonder no more. Use these design tips from notable experts to best package your front door for a first impression that not only says welcome, but wow.

Noted home and style designer Stephen Saint-Onge says the entry door is a major first impression for the rest of the home. "The front door gives a lasting impression of the space," says Saint-Onge. "Doors draw you in, they guide you and they frame the spaces you enter into. They should be welcoming and create an extension of who you are and what your home stands for. Simply changing out windows and doors on an existing home can truly transform the look," says Saint-Onge, named one of the top 15 designers under 40 in America by "House Beautiful."

"I am a big fan of clean white trim and doors on the outside of a home. I like how they can create clean, classic lines on a home," he adds.

Customize your entry door

Pella Windows & Doors offer a variety of entry door combinations to make a dramatic style statement. Fiberglass entry doors from Pella provide the look of real wood, without the work. Unlike other materials, fiberglass resists dents and corrosion. Customers can choose from four graining choices that readily accept paint or stain for a warm, rich look.

"Pella's rich-looking fiberglass entry systems are ideal for homeowners seeking the long-lasting look of wood, while eliminating the performance problems typical of wood doors — splitting, checking and warping," says Teresa McGuire, product planning manager, Pella. "When combined with our durable entry door hardware, available in Bright Brass, Satin Nickel and Oil-Rubbed Bronze, Pella's entry systems are built to last and look good along the way."

Steel entry doors offer similar advantages as fiberglass — they feature the strength and durability of steel to resist the inevitable dents and dings that come with the territory of a well-used entry door. Pella premium steel entry doors arrive primed and ready to paint.

All entry doors are not alike. Pella welcomes the customized approach to entry systems. Choose from sidelights, transoms, a variety of door panel styles or Pella's exclusive decorative glass collections for a unique yet stylish window and door combination that warmly welcomes family and friends.

Fall colors for window fashions

Fall is a great time to update your home and adding a popular, new color to the front door is one way to make a dramatic change. According to world-renowned color experts at the Pantone Color Institute, fall colors hit at the heart and soul of Mother Nature.

"What is most directional for Fall 2005 is the intriguing combinations of colors — Glazed Ginger and Moroccan Blue with the accent of Moss; or Rattan," observes Leatrice Eiseman, executive director, Pantone Color Institute. "Blue Turquoise, spring's dominant color, has matured into Moroccan Blue — a deep, vibrant teal. Rich browns are also extremely important for Fall '05, from spicy shades like Glazed Ginger to darker chocolates. Meanwhile, Rattan exemplifies yellow's new, burnished direction."

Another way to transform your home yet keep current with the latest color trends is to seasonally change window treatments. The Pella Designer Series Collection, featuring shades tucked between the panes of glass, lends itself beautifully to the notion that change is good. This innovative new product allows homeowners to quickly and easily change either the blind or shade by simply opening the window, snapping out the existing blind or shade and popping in a new color. Visionary in its color palette selection, Pella offers Designer Series blinds and shades in fall's popular color tones such as Sage, Silver Mist, Bamboo, Pewter, Bisque, Bordeaux and Marine.

"Pella sets the trend in fashion and innovation for every opening



THE ENTRY DOOR is a major first impression for the rest of the home.

in the home," says Sherri Gillette, Pella Corporation, brand manager for Designer Series windows and patio doors. "The new Designer Series windows and doors feature three key attributes that make them truly distinctive: we have the most popular styles and colors of window fashions to choose from, we pioneered the shade-between-

the-glass option and no one makes it easier to change window fashions than Pella with our convenient snap-in, snap-out system."

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expert by calling 800-visit www.pella.com — Courtesy of Pella

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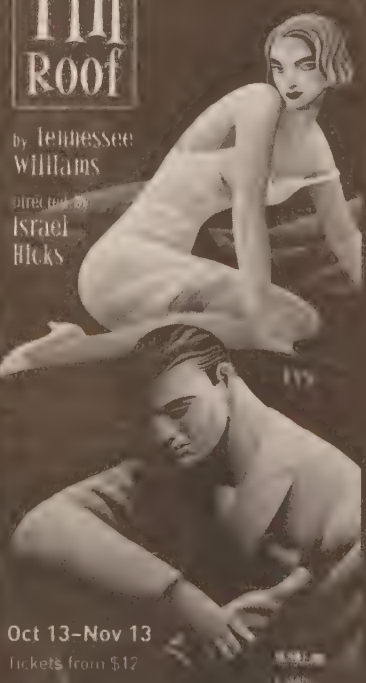
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There's a big payoff when you get your kids involved in decorating decisions

When they were babies you got away with pretty much anything you wanted for your son or daughter's room. You had fish and duckies on the walls or baby animals and so on. The look probably worked for your child was a toddler too, but once they're in preschool it's time to make a change.

By the age of 4, kids have already developed a solid set of likes and dislikes for everything from shapes and colors to cartoon characters, people and pets. So parents, it's in your best interest to involve your "little person" in any and all decisions that will affect their space.

A good place to start is by deciding on a color scheme. If your child, for example, tells you blue and green are his favorite colors, or your daughter says she likes pink and purple, ask which color they want on the walls and plan on getting sheets, pillows and other decorations in the other color.

Next pick a theme, keeping in mind that you want the room to grow with your child, so the decorations you chose should be easily removable when the child outgrows the look. Mobiles, stuffed

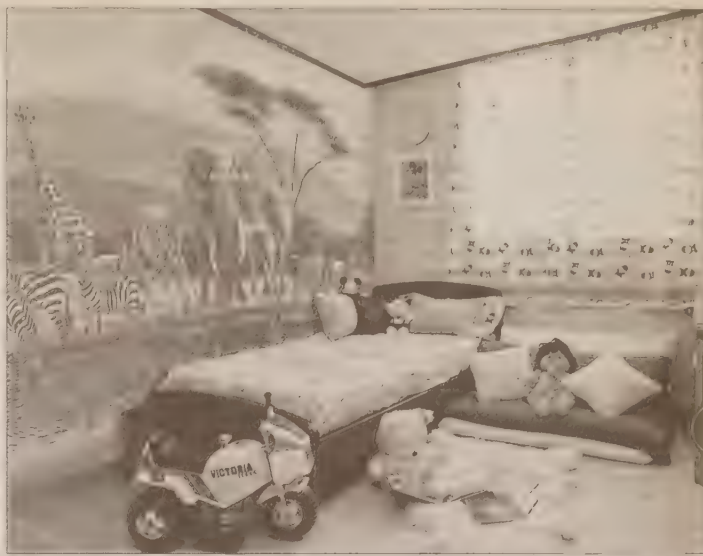
animals and cutouts or murals that attach to the walls when you put a little water or removable paste on their backs are good options.

Popular themes for little boys' rooms include space, cars, sports and fire trucks. To achieve these looks, a good place to start is with a comforter and matching pillowcases. You may also want to look for giant cutouts that fit the theme, like race cars, fire trucks, baseballs or soccer balls that can be attached to the wall. For a space look, you may want to hang a planet mobile above the bed and attach glow-in-the-dark stars, moons and planets to the walls. If your son is a "jock, in training" you can even bring in sporting equipment that can serve not only as decorations but inspiration. Preschool girls love butterflies, princesses, ponies and Hello Kitty. It'll be easy to find an appropriately themed comforter since these themes are so universal. Other accents that work well include pillows with frilled edges, dolls and stuffed animals.

Or perhaps you'd like to go with a look inspired by the new movie, "Madagascar," and recreate an animal gathering place in your child's

room. An easy way to achieve this look is to get a camouflage colored bedspread and tan or green pillowcases and hang cargo nets from the ceiling for your child's stuffed animals to "live" in. A new wall mural from Décor Place will really help make the look come alive. "The Gathering Place" is an image of elephants, zebras, giraffes and other jungle animals gathered around a watering hole. You can get it customized to fit any sized space that's at least 4 by 6 feet wide. For more information about the "Gathering Place" or to get a look at dozens of other wall murals available for children's rooms, log on to www.decorplace.com and click on custom murals. In addition to an online catalog, you'll find pricing information and directions for hanging murals there.

Once you get "the look" you want established, you can turn your attention to storage options. Preschoolers are old enough to clean their own rooms. Make it easy for them by providing convenient storage solutions. There should be easily accessible containers, such as boxes, bins or baskets, they can put small toys in; and a bigger box for the rock-



ARA CONTENT

WHETHER YOU'RE RAISING a Little Leaguer or a pint-sized princess, wallpapers help children surround themselves with things they love.

ets, fire trucks, ponies and dolls. The bookcase in their room should be short enough for them to reach the top shelf.

In the long run, involving your child in the decorating process will pay huge dividends. Not only will they take pride in ownership, but

because it's a look they helped create, they'll actually want to keep it clean.

— Courtesy of ARA Content

It's easy to cook simply for the two of you

Preparing a meal for just the two of you can be quick and easy, especially if you keep eggs on hand. Versatile eggs are a high-protein food portioned for two to suit small households. Food producers have made eggs more convenient by offering 2 and 6-count packs to retailers. However many eggs you buy, they'll keep in the refrigerator, with significant quality loss, for at least three weeks from the time they bring them home.

With eggs in the fridge, it's easy to add a welcome change of pace to your menus. Eggs can also help include more vegetables in your diet, as the new Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend. Quiche in Pepper Pots is a good example of an entrée that combines protein with the vitamins, minerals and fiber of veggies.

These novel individual quiches are easy on the cook, too. Simply choose any colorful vegetable blend you like to fill the peppers, pour on egg-and-milk custard and bake. What company coming? Then just multiply the recipe to suit the number of servings you need.

For fast, nutritious eating other times, you can use the remaining eggs you have on hand in a variety of ways. Toss slices or wedges of hard-cooked eggs with greens and other veggies for a main-dish salad; poach eggs right in your favorite soup; reheat leftover pasta and veggies and pour on eggs to

make a skillet scramble; or visit www.aeb.org for other simple, satisfying recipe ideas.

QUICHE IN PEPPER POTS
2 medium (about 4 oz. each) green, yellow or sweet red peppers
1/2 cup (about 8 oz.) frozen vegetable blend, thawed
2 eggs

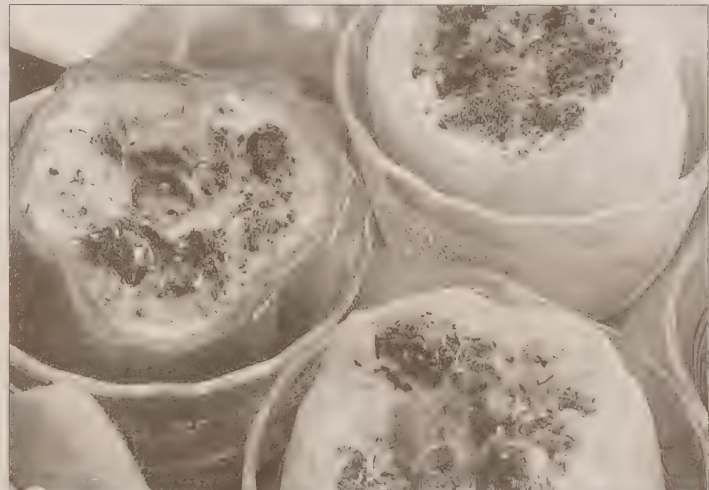
1/4 cup skim or low-fat milk
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
1/4 teaspoon Italian seasoning, crushed

Cut tops off peppers and remove seeds. Sawtooth or scallop pepper edges, if desired. Stand peppers upright in custard cups or muffin-pan cups. Spoon 1/4 cup of the vegetables into each pepper. In small bowl,

beat together eggs, milk and seasonings until well blended. Pour about 1/3 cup of the egg mixture over vegetables in each pepper.

Bake in preheated 325-degree oven until knife inserted near center comes out clean, about 60 to 70 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes before serving.

Makes 2 servings.



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QUICHE IN PEPPER POTS is quick and easy to prepare.

Hardy and handy — new plant varieties for fall

You can mix and match hardy conifers and heather with icicle Pansies along with kale, mums and ornamental grasses to create a garden that will be colorful and stand hardy. These varieties also look great in your containers or window boxes. You can 'cheat' and buy ready-to-show planters and baskets. The best way to find out if they have arrived at your garden center is to enter the notification program on Fernlea Flowers' Web site, www.fernlea.com.

Popular in Europe, winter gardening is catching on in North America. Fall comes alive with the Winter Garden Collection - an array of heathers (calluna vulgaris), cedars, junipers, and more! How to plant and care for them and what they look like can all be found on Fernlea's Web site.

Create the color accents you want by planting a container with a specific heather, juniper and cedar, surrounded with further color from pansies, mums and kale. You will have a showstopper.

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Tips for making fall cleanup easier

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Summer goes by so quickly, you don't want to miss a minute of it. But as the days get shorter and the temperatures cool down, the signs are unmistakable — fall is on its way. And even though you know you need to be preparing your lawn, garden and home for the coming months, who wants to waste precious summer days doing chores? Here are some tips to get those pesky tasks finished quickly so you can enjoy your weekends.

■ **Garden:** You've probably had your fill of zucchini and tomatoes by now. If your plants have stopped producing, it's time to start the garden cleanup. Pull up any spent plants and give your soil a head start for next year by turning it over and adding compost.

Flower gardens should also be cleaned up. Cut back perennials that are done blooming, and keep deadheading annuals to encourage flowering as long as possible. Be sure to keep up with the weeding — the fewer weeds you have this fall, the fewer you'll have to deal with next year. Before the really cold weather sets in, lay down a thick cover of mulch to help protect your plants over the winter.

■ **Lawn:** Keep mowing and watering so your lawn isn't stressed going into the fall. Give it one more dose of "weed and feed" fertilizer to give it an extra boost. Now is also a good time to aerate your lawn — try wearing your golf shoes next time you mow.

■ **Outdoor furniture:** If you have vinyl furniture, give it a good washing and take it in to store. Wood furniture can be more of a chore — you'll want to inspect it for damage and do any necessary repairs before you store it for the winter. This could mean sanding, scraping and repainting or restaining.

Maybe now is the time to consider replacing that lightweight vinyl and inconvenient wood furniture with stylish, low maintenance outdoor furniture.

A Minnesota-based company called By The Yard sells lawn furniture made from recycled plastic milk jugs that is attractive and virtually maintenance-free. The plastic lumber is colorfast, so it never needs repainting, and it is impervious to all types of weather from freezing temperatures to blistering heat. It can withstand moist or dry climates.

"We've tested our products in Alaska, the Arizona desert and the

Florida Keys and after 30 years they still look great," says company president Deb Anderson.

Because the heavy-duty polymer used to manufacture the furniture can hold up to the elements, there's no need to drag your lawn furniture into the garage or basement in the fall, only to drag it out again in the spring — simply leave it in your yard year-round. What could be easier? All you need to do is hose the furniture off in the spring and you're ready to enjoy it.

The material weighs about 20 percent more than cedar, it won't blow around outside like lightweight furniture does. The material is also extremely flexible, which makes it as comfortable as it is durable, even without cushions.

■ **Decks and patios:** Wood decks need to be cleaned and resealed periodically to maintain their looks and their structural integrity. Check your deck to see if it is showing signs of wear and tear. If your patio has settled over the summer, now is a good time to patch any cracks that have developed so they don't get worse over the winter.

■ **House exterior:** Patch any cracks in the foundation and touch



WITH FALL CLEANUP out the way, you can relax and enjoy the remaining days of summer.

up any peeling or cracking outdoor paint. Clean your gutters one last time so melting snow and ice won't get trapped this winter.

A few quick preventive measures can make next spring much more

pleasant, and still give you time to enjoy the rest of your summer.

By The Yard furniture is available in 70 different styles and six colors. Choose from Adirondack styles, rockers and swings, table

and chair sets, benches and loungers. For more information, visit www.bytheyard.com or call 220-0448. — Courtesy of By The Yard

To dress up your fireplace, just add jewelry

ARA

The little black dress has always been a wardrobe basic, but jewelry adds the sparkle. At home, a few well-placed accessories can dress up a basic fireplace too.

According to a 2004 consumer survey conducted by the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association (HPBA), homeowners with a gas or wood-burning fireplace consider it a major design feature, with many describing it as an architectural element. But now it's time to play dress up.

A variety of hearth accessories are available, in styles to fit the taste of virtually every fireplace owner. Whether buying a matching set of accessories, or pulling the look together piece by piece, be sure to consider all the options.

If the fireplace doesn't have a mantel, consider adding one. A mantel can provide a finished look, and can make a small fireplace look bigger. Whether choosing a mantelshelf, or a full surround mantel, be sure the design complements the room, and neither overwhelms nor underwhelms the size of the firebox.

A 2004 consumer survey conducted by the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association (HPBA) showed homeowners with a gas or wood-burning fireplace consider it a major design feature.

An eye-catching fireplace screen — available at home centers and specialty hearth retailers — costs a little, installs in seconds, and creates an instant focal point. Whether your style is contemporary, Victorian, country, art deco or just eclectic, there are screens that will blend seamlessly with your home.

Firesets are a necessity for wood burning fireplaces and are a great decoy for gas fireplaces. They include a brush, ash shovel, and poker mounted in a decorative stand.

For wood-burning fireplaces, a log holder is a must. Styles and finishes run the gamut. Choose an open, grate-like wrought iron holder, or perhaps a chrome-plated, basket-type holder, or fender. Select a style or material to complement the other

hearth pieces.

For a perfect finishing touch set out a brass match holder, an old-fashioned bellows, or beautifully styled andirons.

In the summer, clean out the firebox, remove the logs, and insert a decorative candleholder or a piece of interesting artwork. Of course, no hearth is complete without a shiny brass cricket for good luck.

Basics are good — but accessorizing is better.

For more information about fireplaces and fireplace accessories, visit www.hpba.org.

A FEW WELL-PLACED accessories can dress up a basic fireplace.



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- Personal Design/Planning Assistance
- Experienced and thorough craftspeople
- Timely starts and guaranteed completion dates
- Licensed, bonded and insured
- A five-year written guarantee

Continuing The Tradition



(925) 473-9003

Construction, Inc.

License #725777

www.claytonoktoberfest.com

Clayton Business & Community Association Presents

Clayton Oktoberfest

Downtown Clayton

October 1

11am - 8:00 pm

October 2

11am - 6:00 pm

Non-stop Live music

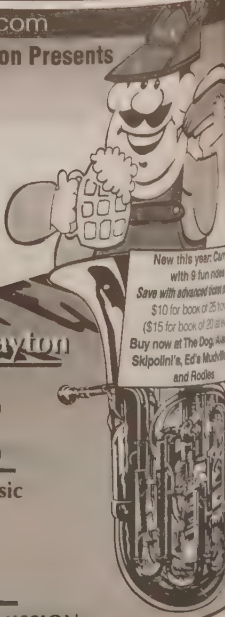
Biergarten

Food Court

Carnival

Art Vendors

FREE PARKING & ADMISSION



Now this year, Clayton has a fun new event!
Save with advanced tickets!
\$10 for beer or 25 tickets
(\$15 for beer or 25 tickets)
Buy now at The Dog and the Squirrel!
Skipton's, Ed's Munchies and Rooties

PET SMART™

shop smart and save

save \$1
with card

99¢
after savings

Choose from
three large
and formula
meal
bites.
22 lb. bags
three cans
flavors
oz. cans... **47¢**
after savings

save \$4
with card

7.99
after savings

on large
formulas
manuba
ood.
lb. bags

save \$4
with card

2.99
after savings

Two Natural Choice
Complete Care
Food
for multiple cat
pouches. Select
flavors. 20 lb. bag

save up to \$150
with card

14.99
after savings

Choose from
Dog Chow
Complete
Nutrition
Formula
or Little Bites
Indoor.
35.2 lb. or
50 lb. bag

save \$3
with card

26.99
after savings

Save on any
40 lb. bag
of Iams
dog food.

Look inside for Exclusive Pet Halloween costumes, beds, toys and accessories

AV40

NEW

LAMB MEAL & RICE RECIPE

Promotes comfortable digestion,
healthy skin and shiny coat.

SAVE \$4
on any 35 lb. bag
with card

SAVE \$4
on any 35 lb. bag
with card

SAVE \$4
on any 35 lb. bag
with card

SAVE \$4
on any 35 lb. bag
with card

<p>NEW</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p> <p>SCIENCE DIET</p> <p>SAVE \$4 on any 35 lb. bag with card</p>
<p>Easy to digest</p> <p>Healthy Bones and Muscles</p> <p>Strong Immune System</p>	<p>Teeth and Fresh Breath</p> <p>Strong, Clean</p> <p>Overall Health and Vitality</p>	<p>Healthy Skin and Radiant Coat</p> <p>Healthy Bones and Muscles</p> <p>Strong Immune System</p>	<p>Teeth and Fresh Breath</p> <p>Strong, Clean</p> <p>Overall Health and Vitality</p>

NEW

starting at
1.59
ea.

Exclusively
at PetSmart
**Top Wing
Cuttlebone**
Choose from
banana or raspberry,
small or large.



7.99-11.99
ea.

**Petstages
Toys & Cage
Accessories**
Give your pet bird a
happy and healthy
environment.



2.99
ea. after savings
**Carefresh
Colors Pet
Bedding**
Choose from
pink, blue,
green or purple.
5 L bag

save \$1
with card

7.99
**Kaytee
Total Comfort
Bedding for
Small Animals**
Natural scent,
soft and dust free.
20 L bag



small pet

3.49
ea.

**Kaytee Grass
Orchard or
Bermuda**
Grass essentials for
your rabbit, guinea
or chinchilla.
16 oz. bag



6.29
ea. after savings
**T-Rex Aspen
Reptile Bedding**
Great new substrate
for your snake.
10 qt. bag

18.69
ea. after savings
**Hawkeye
Reptat**
New style of home for
your reptile.

**Toys, beds,
costumes &
collars**

that capture the

**Halloween
Spirit**



your choice

3.99
ea.

**Cat
Hats**



your choice

2.49
ea.

**Cat in
Costume Toys
Mouse, dog
or bird**



Howl-O-Ween

★ pet photo contest ★

begins September 5th

www.petsmart.com/halloween



19.99

**Remote Control
Spider**

Fun for you and
kitty this Halloween
with this remote
control spider!



SHINE

INSIDE & OUT

NEW

LAMB MEAL & RICE RECIPE

- Comfortable digestion
- Healthy skin and shiny coat guaranteed*
- Lamb meal from New Zealand

* 100% Satisfaction Money Back Guarantee.

reptile

save \$3
with card



save up to 50¢
with card

starting at

5.69
ea. after savings

NEW

Omega One Fish Treats

As nutritious as live foods. Uses fresh ingredients, natural proteins and color enhancers. 0.46-l oz. containers



save up to \$5
with card

starting at

12.99
ea. after savings

Tetra Whisper Power Filter

Best prices of the year! Visit TetraCare.com for FREE step-by-step support for setting up and maintaining your aquarium. Models 10-60



NEW

starting at

34.99

Water Wonders Rock or Driftwood Drop-in Decor Filter

Hides a powerful Whisper in-tank filter. Fits 10 or 20 gallon aquarium.



Filter included.

NEW

starting at

24.99

Theo Aquarium Heater

Meets rigorous UL standards for safety. 25, 100, 150, 200, 300 or 400 watt



cat

NEW

Bubbles collection

starting at

6.50

Quick-Tags
Identify your pet!
Instant pet I.D.
engraving kiosks
located in every store.



save \$10
with card



59.99
after savings

Large Top Paw Dog House



NEW

starting at
99.99

Inflatable Dog House
Medium, large or extra large

64.99

Kitty Condo with Door



save \$2
with card

14.99
after savings

Rubbermaid Deep Litter Pan



starting at

2.99

Beds, blankets and toys



NEW

Indoor Cat

Ideal for Spayed or Neutered Cats

- Helps avoid the formation of hairballs
- Helps maintain a healthy weight
- Complete nutrition for an indoor lifestyle



Vet's #1 Choice for Their Own Pets™



